جوردان تايمز يومية عبيكسية تصفر فالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية والرايء

Sedki to visit Damascus

CAIRO (AP) - Prime Minister Atef Sedki is scheduled to fly to Syria's capital Damascus this week, continuing an exchange of high-level visits to heal a 12-year bilateral rift. A government source, who refused to be identified, said Sedki is expected to go to Damascus Thursday. Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam visited Cairo last Saturday and met with President Hosni Mobarak. Khaddam, the highest Syrian official in Egypt since 1977, strongly indicated after the meeting that the two countries would resume diplomatic relations soon. He said Muharak and Syrian President Hafez Al Assad would meet shortly to "rectify the status of Egyptian-Syrian relations." He added that the patchop would be of Egyptian-Syrian relations." He added that the patchup would be "comprehensive." There has been no word on the date or venue of the sammit, but the Egyptian government source said Sedki's visit was a preparatory step. Mubarak also said later Tuesday he and Assad would meet after Sedki's visit. He was talking to reporters on a tour of an industrial area near Cairo, and his comments were aired on Egyptian television. "The meeting between Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and myself will take place after (Sedki's trip)," be said.

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AMMAN WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1989, JUMADA AL OULA 28, 1410

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Sandi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Cabinet limits powers

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN -- The government Tuesday announced a fresh series of measures limiting the jurisdiction of military courts and granting more powers to civilian courts in what is seen as another step in fulfilling its pledge to abolish

upon the directives of His Majesty King Hussein, the Council of Ministers decided to limit the purisdiction of military courts and transfer the authority to civil courts as part of several steps already taken towards lifting marrial law, in effect in the Kingdom since the 1967 war.

The decision was immediately welcomed by members of Parliament who saw it as a positive

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Deputy Issa Madanat told the Jordan Times in a telephone interview that the Cabinet's decision "is a good decision but what we really want is to cancel the martial law completely."

The official announcement said the government has decided to

(Agencies) — An Israeli officer

fatally shot a Palestinian protes-

ter during a predawn army raid

Tuesday, and an Israeli-owned

bus was reported set ablaze by

unknown assailants in Israel as

passengers fled from the vehicle.

ron, a Palestinian shot and

seriously wounded an Arab ac-

cused of toting an Israeli-issue

rifle around his village and turn-

ing in activists in the Palestinian

uprising to the Israeli occupation

authorities, Arab reports said.

off the fingers of another alleged

collaborator with Israel in the

West Bank village of Bituniya.

day after the Palestine Liberation

Organisation (PLO) issued a new

uprising leaflet from Tunis urging

Palestinians to escalate attacks on

Israeli forces between Christmas

and the New Year "to honour the

Including Tuesday's fatality,

640 Palestinians have been killed

by Israelis during the two-year

Palestinian revolution.

The upsurge in violence came a

Other assailants reportedly cut

In the West Bank city of Heb-

celling military courts' jurisdiction over (certain) crimes,

The most important of the 13 laws contained in the Cabinet's statement was a decision to cancel military jurisdiction over a 1953 legislation combatting com-

"The two most important steps directives adopted in Communist are pulling the martial courts' jurisdiction off communism in dictatorship."

Jordan and political parties. The govern

The communism law, which came into effect on Dec. 8, 1953, defined communism as "calling to exchange the current constitu-

countries which call for a class

The government of Prime now Parliament can work on cancelling these two laws completely."

The communism law, which
took power early this month has
took power early this month has
took power early this month has
to further the liberalisation process in the Kingdom by wide the scope of public, and political freedoms as well as reversing several martial law decisions adopted during former Prime

Minister Zeid Rifai's rule. 3
Many of Badran's directives. including freeing all political de-tainees and limiting the authority of the General Intelligence De-

Following are the cases rediction to civil courts under the announcement made Tuesday: - Violation of the weapons

(Continued on page 3)

Romanians rejoice over

Romanian soldiers celebrate the downfall of Nicolae Ceausesco

showed the bodies, of former President Nicolae Ceausescu and his wife after they were executed by firing squad, and Romanians rejoiced at word of the dictator's

Also Tuesday, the provisional government appointed its leader, 37-member governing Council of the National Salvation Committee. The committee now has been recognised by more than 15 countries, including the Soviet Union and United States, as the legitimate government.

An uneasy calm prevailed Tuesday morning in Bucharest, with no shooting to be heard for the first time in days.

Radio reports and Romanian sources said Tnesday that Ceausescu loyalist forces, whom the privisional government calls "terrorists," were surrendering en masse. They offered no details, The videotape showed the bul-

let-riddled bodies lying against a wall after an earlier sequence of the Ceausescus in captivity. A close-up showed Ceausescu lying with blood on the right side of his

The actual shooting hy firing squad was not shown, nor was its location disclosed. Ceausescu and his wife were

reported tried and executed Mon-

day — Christmas Day — for alleged crimes against his people, including the "genocide" of more than 60,000 people throughout from 60,000 to 100,000 from 11

Earlier in the day, Romanians who secretly despised their ruler for years, had a chance to see him bumiliated when state television broadcast a videotape of the couple in captivity before their execution.

of the national economy.

By trying the couple, putting them to death swiftly and showing the bodies, the revolutionary government apparently was

trying to end the fierce street

fighting that has claimed thousands of lives since Friday. Widely varying death toils ran

his 24-year rule and destruction days of clashes between wellarmed Ceausescu loyalists and the rebellious army and armed civilians. The uprising has seen some of the most ferocious street fighting in Europe since World

Power stations, factories, dairies and hakeries have resumed production, the official news agency Agerpres said Tues-

There was a brief celebration in

ment radio announced the appointment of the new leaders Tuesday.

The ruling Council of the National Salvation Committee, formed just during the revolution to run the country, appointed Dumitru Mazilu as its vice chair-

is an international la expert and former U.N. official

in Bucharest for more than a It said the National Salvation Committee also issued a decree appointing. Petre Roman prime

minister until elections promised for early next year. Romanian observers in the west said they were not familiar with Roman.

Another decree, also signed by

that the Ceausescus were summarily executed because of fears that loyalists were plotting a res-

had information concerning a possible attack on the place where they were held," Roman

U.S. determined to catch Noriega who is bottled up in Vatican mission

PANAMA CTTY (Agencies) — The United States was taking a tough line on Tuesday over the firture of ousted Panamanian strongman Manuel Noriega, saying Washington has not yet even considered, allowing him to leave the Vatican diplomatic mission in Panama to go to a third

regarded Noriega, wanted for trial in the United States on drug trafficking charges, as a criminal and not a political refugee eligible for asylum.

U.S. armoured vehicles and oldiers posted on rooftops bottled up the 51-year-old Noriega in the papal nunciature in Panama City, where he sought asylum

Sunday. Armoured personnel carriers blocked roads leading to the

building in the Paitilla district. U.S. soldiers patrolled near the perimeter of the embassy, witnesses said, while about 20 soldiers were positioned on the roof of a school opposite and another 10 were in a nearby car park.

reported to be dying in Panama, which the United States invaded

maintained under the Panama Canal treaties and extra personnel flown in.

During the night, a U.S. C-130 aircraft circled over Panama City. negotiations over the inture of Noriega are deadlocked, with the United States strongly insisting Noriega stand trial and the Vatican, which has no extradition treaty with Washington, refusing

Madrid would extradite Noriega to the United States if he sought Diplomats said Mexico had re-

fused Noreiga asylum. But Cuba indicated it would be willing to grant political asylm to Noriega if he asked for it, Panamanian television said.

"At present, if he leaves the embassy under any circumstances, he will in fact he arrested by U.S. forces and returned to

the United States," he said. been in contact with Vatican offidetails of the discussions. "It could be they will have a

United States considered Noriega a criminal and that he should not be given asylum as a political refugee. "He is a common criminal, he is not a political fi-gure," Cheney said.

Asked if the United State might be willing to allow Noriega safe passage to a third country. Chency said: "I don't think we have reached the point where we are ready to address that ques-

be a mistake for the United States, which maintains a military base in Panama, to return the extra troops too soon. U.S. forces say they have

ance with the death of 23 Americans and 290 Panamanian soldiers.

to work after Christmas. Lines of traffic built up near . the Panama Canal as U.S. troops stopped and searched vehicles

whose owners were trying to get to work in Panama City, witnesses said. Panama's new government has called on civil servants who worked for the Noriega-backed gov-

promised reorganisation hut ruled out dismissals. In a Christmas message to U.S. troops, President George Bush

democracy to Panamanians.

said the invasion had brought freedom and the promise of U.S. army Lieutenant-Colonel

Jerry Murgia said 440 Noriega loyalist troops and about the same number of weapons were captured in airhorne assaults Monday on David. 32 kilometres to the west, and La Palma, just southwest of Panama City.

gence chief, Colonel Guillermo Wong, surrendered Monday. Wong had been arrested after a coup attempt in October, but was

munism and considering affiliation to any illegal party or group-ing a crime to be tried in military A Cabinet statement said that Deputy Faris Nabulsi said in an' tional directives in the Hashemite

> of disengagement decision AMMAN (Petra) - The formation of a committee to discuss the

core of the (disengagement) decision."

The committee, which will be chaired by the deputy prime minister and interior minister, will include among its members, the ministers of industry, trade and agriculture, the director of the Public Security Department, the director of the General Intelligence Department as well as the head of the Department of Palestinian

human and personal effects of the Kigsdom's decision to sever legal and administrative links with the Israeli-occupied West Bank has

to facilitate the daily affairs of citizens in the West Bank in a manner which would strengthen their steadfastness without touching the

Panel to study effects

been approved by the Cabinet in a regular session Tuesday.

The committee was also charged with "taking necessary measures

Affairs at the Foreign Ministry.

partment on issues pertaining to freedom of work and travel as well as returning the newspapers to their original owners, were also welcomed by the public at large and many deputies in the Lower House of Parliament.

moved from military court jurisand ammunition law number 34

Hizbollah militants advanced Beirut, security sources said.

village from house to house before it finally fell to Hizbollah, witnesses said.

Hizbollah, financed, trained and equipped by Iran, earlier captured the Amal-held villages of Kfar Fila, 'Ain Qana, Bous-

fled Iqlim Al Tufah, a Shi'ite Muslim region extending from the southern port of Sidon to Israel's self-proclaimed "security zone" north of its border.

reached the nearby Amal-held village of Kfar Hitti said the crackle of machinegum fire and thud of explosions could still be heard from the battle zone.

its stone houses.

gers, Hussein Hameyeh, 75, said: "I had to send my family away. I stayed behind to protect my house and belongings.
"Only someone like me who

"That was a terrorist act and Mr. Begin later became prime minister," Tutu said. cus last January, but several

pean peace activists said Tuesday they would join hands in a human chain around the walls of Jernsalem Saturday, despite an Israeli ban on West Bank and Gaza

Israeli troops kill one amid Hizbollah gains ground against

The pro-Iranian Hizbollah won inter-Shi'ite battles in South Lebanon raged on for a fourth

under a blanket of artillery and

sources said at least 40 people had been killed and 170 wounded since the fighting empted Saturday. The dead included at least 12 Amal and 10 Hizbollah fighters.

laya and Jimaya.

Amal resistance. A Reuters reporter who

Kfar Hitti, usually home for

12,000 people, was almost deserted except for Amal fighters in combat positions on the roofs of

in a house when shells are crashing nearby."

The fundamentalist Hizbollah

sponsored by Tehran and Damas-

there as stipulated in the peace

moves to escalate resistance Tmaizi was rushed to Aliya Amal more ground from the Syrianbacked Amal militia Tuesday as

mortar fire to seize the village of Kfar Milki in Iglim Al Tufah district, 40 kilometres south of Amal militiamen defended the

There were no immediate reports on casualties, but hospital

Thousands of villagers have

Security sources said Hizbollah militants were combing Kfar Milki to eliminate the last pockets of

One of the few remaining villa-

doesn't care for his life could stay

and the more secular Amal, rivals for leadership of Lebanon's 1.5 million Shi'ites, have frequently clashed over the past two years. They signed a peace accord

plemented. Amal, the largest Muslim militia, regards South Lebanon as its preserve and has refused to let Hizboliah play an active role

clauses have not been im-

execution of Ceausescus Jordan welcomes new Romanian leadership AMMAN (J.T.) -- Jordan tinued ties of friendship and cooperation between the Jorda-

Tuesday welcomed the naming by the Council of National Salvation Committee of a new president and government of Romania following the ousting

Ion Liescu heads provisional government

of Nicolae Ceausescu. A spokesman for the government said that the government, respecting the Romanian people's right to demonstrate its willinguess to opt for democracy, was "looking forward to con-

common interests."

will send in medical supplies and assistance, upon the directives of His Majesty King Hus-

based on mutual respect and The spokesman said that Jordan "deplores the loss of human lives in Romania and

nian and Romanian peoples

man, Agerpres said.

who had been under house arrest

lliescu, appointed Major-General Nicolae Militaru minister of national defence. Roman told French Television

cue attempt. "There were pressures. We

told reporters in Bucharest. 'We believe today even more than we did yesterday that we were in a situation which did not downtown Bucharest, with cars allow us to wait," Roman said.

Tutu accuses Israeli leaders of terrorism

(Agencies) - South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu Tuesday defended his criticism of Israel's treatment of Palestinians and said that former Israeli lead-

Minister of Religion Zevulun Hammer told the Nobel Peace Prize winner that he showed a simple lack of understanding towards the problems of the Mid-Hammer, who held a one-hour

Israeli official to meet with Tutu during his five-day Christmas pil-grimage to the Holy Land. During his visit, Tutu visited Bethlehem and the village of Beit Sahour in the occupied West Bank, met with Palestinian lead-

meeting with Tutu, was the only

ers and prayed at an Israeli Israelis have been highly critical of Tutu's pilgrimage, and the South African human rights activist said an Israeli shouted "black Nazi pig" at him during one rally

He said despite the insults he hoped his visit would increase understanding between Arabs and Jews If that can spread, the visit will have been most, most worth-

while, even if I have been called a

black Nazi pig," he said. Tutu said he did not meet with

tight schedule, but added if he had met Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir he would have repeated his call for Israel to end its harsh

kind that I have seen on the Palestinians," the Anglican church leader said. his meeting with Hammer.

suffered inflicting suffering of the

which he has repeated throughout his visit. "Some of the things I have seen

will condemn them.

Hammer, who joined Tutu in

"If I am accused, as I am often

said the bishop's views of the understanding and urged the Anglican archbishop to recognise the Israeli view. He said he asked Tutu to "be sensitive to the suffering of both

against Israel by the PLO's main-Gaza Strip hospitals said eight Palestinians were wounded in clashes Tuesday. Residents reported that troops in civilian clothes opened fire on protesters in the main square of Gaza City.

hospital in Hebron after a lone been slain by fellow Palestinians. assailant stopped him while he was driving through town and shot him in the head and abdoas accused collaborators with Israel. Forty-three Israelis have The latest fatality, Farraj Dahmen, the reports said. Uprising activist apparently considered the er Abu Fekhaida, 26, died of a gunshot wound in the chest after shooting a triumph and passed an Israeli commander opened fire out sweets in the Hebron marketon a group of stonethrowers durplace shortly afterwards. ing an army raid on the village of In Gaza, military authorities delayed until Jan. 3 the trial of Jina near Ramallah, the army and Sheikh Ahmad Yassin, spiritual leader of the Muslim fun-Soldiers often launch surprise

damontalist movement Hamas, to prevent violent protests, Israeli bies securos He is accused in connection with anti-Israeli attacks, includ-

ing the murder of two kidnapped His trial had been set for Sunday, the eve of the 25th anniversary of "Fatch day" marking the first military action

stream Fatch faction

identified by Arab reports as Jawad Hassan Mahmoud Tmaizi, uprising against the occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, 40, from the village of Idna near according to the AP.

also died in the uprising.

Arab reports said.

uprising leaders.

scathed.

arrest sweeps in Palestinian vil-

lages in attempts to ferret out

on fire near the West Bank town

of Jenin, Israeli Radio reports

One masked assailant held a

hatchet to the driver, while two

others spilled kerosene between

the seats on the floor and then set

the vehicle on fire, the reports

said. All the passengers reported-

ly managed to fice the bus un-

The wounded collaborator was

The Israeli-owned bus was set

treatment of Palestinians. ers engaged in terrorism in the cannot myself understand people who have suffered as Jews have

> Tutu made his statements after He rejected Israelis' criticism of his comparison of South Africa's oppression of blacks with Israel's treatment of Palestinians.

> here are things I have seen at home," he said. "When I find injustice in the world, whoever perpetrates it must know that I

> accused, of being anti-Semitic, tough luck," he said.

Arabs and Jews dead.

an informal news conference, Middle East showed a lack of

When asked if he would condemn Palestinian attacks on Israelis as "terrorism" and whether he considered Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat a terrorist, Tutu said the definition of "I would say to him that I "terrorism" must take into account military attacks on civihans. He also said that Israeli

leaders have practiced terrorism in the past. . "There are people in high posi-tions in Israel who did things which they would now call terrorism, for example the bombing of the King David Hotel, he said. He was referring to the July 1946 bombing that left 91 British,

contained British military headquarters, was carried out by the Jewish Irgun underground led by former, Israeli leader Menachem

The attack on the hotel, which

'Human chain' planned

Palestinian, Israeli and Euro-

country. Washington made it clear they

Resistance from remnants of Noriega's 'Dignity Battalions,' consisting of armed civilians, was Diplomats say international

to hand him over. Spain's foreign minister, Fran-cisco Fernandez Ordonez, said asylum in Spain.

Interviewed on U.S. television. Cheney said Noriega would be taken into custody by U.S. troops if he left the embassy.

He said the United States had

cials, hnt declined to disclose

long-term resident in their embassy in Panama City," he Cheney made it clear that the

Cheney said Panama was returning to normal and he hoped the United States could begin to withdraw invasion troops fairly soon. But he cautioned it would

crushed most organised resist-

The streets of Panama City, still littered with debris from

fighting and looting, were busiet than any day since the U.S. invasion as people began to go back a

ernment to return to work. It has

He also said Noriega 's intelfi-

Iran says 50 PoWs released

NICOSIA (AP) — Iran released 50 ailing or disabled Iraqi prisoners of war Monday to representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Tehran Radio reported.

It was not clear whether Iraq would reciprocate and release some of the Iranian PoWs it holds. The radio said the prisoners were released in Tehran to the Red Cross for later repatriation.

Tehran Radio, monitored in Cyprus, quoted a Foreign Ministry statement as saying the 50 were being freed "on humanitarian grounds and (in response to) a request from the U.N. secretary

It did not say when Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar made the appeal. But Baghdad last week sent a memorandum to the U.N. chief expressing con-cern over PoWs in Iran after an ICRC report on Dec. 6 that 22 Iraqis have died in jail. The deaths were attributed to

"heart attacks and relevant diseases," but the Iraqi media suggested the prisoners might have been tortured to death. The Red Cross has registered

some 50,000 prisoners held by Iran and more than 19,200 in Iraqi camps. But United Nations officials and diplomats estimate the two sides hold around 100,000 PoWs between them.

The Red Cross secured an agreement to repatriate ailing prisoners immediately after a U.N. ceasefire halted the Gulf war on Aug. 20, 1988.

But the deal collapsed after the repatriation of only 400 disabled and wounded prisoners with both sides accusing each other of falsifying the number of captives

who were seeking asylum.

The ICRC's Middle East chief, Angelo Guadinger, visited Tehran and Baghdad last week seeking a swap of the remaining 1,000 wounded and disabled PoWs held by both sides.

But the mediation collapsed, mainly because Tehran insisted the exchange be coupled with a withdrawal of Iraqi forces from chunks of land they occupied in the final weeks of the Gulf war.

U.N.-sponsored peace talks, launched five days after the Gulf war ceasefire, have been deadlocked mainly over the troop withdrawal issue and Iraq's demand for redemarcation of the border to give it full sovereignty over the Shatt Al Arab waterway.

The channel, a confluence of the Great Tigris and Euphrates rivers, is Iraq's sole outlet to the Gulf. Before the war, the border ran down the middle of Shatt Al

Jerusalem Post editor resigns

2

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) - The editor of Israel's infinential Jerusalem Post resigned Tuesday, accusing the publisher appointed by its new Canadian owners of interfering in editorial operations. Erwin Frenkel, editor since

1975, said in a letter of resignation that he quit because the president and publisher, Yehuda Levy, was seeking effective editorial control of the English-language daily. Levy was appointed in July by

the Toronto-based Hollinger Inc. after it bought the Post. He promised staff he would not interfere with the paper's dovish line, backing down from public remarks that right-wing views should receive wider coverage.

JORDAN TELEVISION

MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

Peres postpones Moscow visit

TEL AVIV (AP) - Vice-premier Shimon Peres has unexpectedly postponed a trip to Moscow that was planned for Jan. 2, an official said Tuesday. Peres, who is also finance minister and heads the Labour Party, was to have been the highest ranking Israeh to visit the Soviet Union in at least two decades. No future date was set for the trip, said an official in Peres' office who spoke on condition of anonymity. The official said the reason for the postponement was the minister's preparations to win parliamentary approval for a controversial budget proposal for fiscal 1990 and because there were no final schedule set for Peres' meetings in Moscow. The Yediot Ahronot daily indicated Peres sought the delay because he had failed to set up a meeting with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. The Soviet Union broke diplomatic ties with Israel during the 1967 war but has gradually restored relations in the past three years. The two countries have exchanged low-level diplomatic representatives in the past two years.

Iran says It may again boycott haj

NICOSIA (R) — Iran said Tuesday it might boycott the annual pilgrimage to Mecca, Saudi Arabia, for a third successive year. The official news agency IRNA quoted Hojatoleslam Imam Jamarani, head of the haj (pilgrimage) and Endowments Organisation, as saying the boycott would stay unless Riyadh changed what be called its "anti-Islamie attitude." Jamarani cited the deaths of more than 400 people, mainly Iranian, in clashes between demonstrators and Saudi Arabian security forces during the 1987 pilgrimage, said IRNA monitored in Comms. Speaking at a news conference. said IRNA, monitored in Cyprus. Speaking at a news conference, he also condemned Saudi Arabia's execution of 16 Kuwaitis for planting bombs in Mecca during the pilgrimage in July this year. Iran has objected to a haj quota of 45,000 Iranian pilgrims endorsed by the Organisation of Islamic Conference and says it should be allowed to send at least 150,000. The dispute over the pilgrimage was a major reason for a break in relations between Iran and Saudi Asakia. and Saudi Arabia.

Ethloplan rebels claim Shoa attacks

NAIROBI (R) — Rebels in northern Ethiopia said Tuesday they killed, wounded or captured I,066 government troops when they seized the towns of Rabel and Mehal Meda in Shoa province last week. Giving details of attacks it first reported last week, the clandestine radio of the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) said 350 troops were killed or wounded and 31I captured in the seizure of Rabel, 200 kilometres northeast of the capital Addis Ababa. The radio, monitored in Nairobi, said 280 troops were killed or wounded and 125 captured in the attack on nearby Mehal Meda. The radio, which did not detail rebel losses, said large quantities of weaponry were seized during the attacks. On Monday, the TPLF radio said the rebels killed more than I,800 government troops in three days of heavy fighting last week around the town of Debre Tabor in Gondar province, beating off an army offensive. The TPLF and its small ally the Ethiopian People's Democratic Movement control the whole of northern Tigray province and since the end of August have pushed south to capture large areas of Gondar, Wnilo and Shoa provinces. They have waged 14 years of civil war with the government. The TPLF rebels first took up arms in 1975 to topple the Soviet-backed government of Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam.

Algerian party drops old-guard leaders

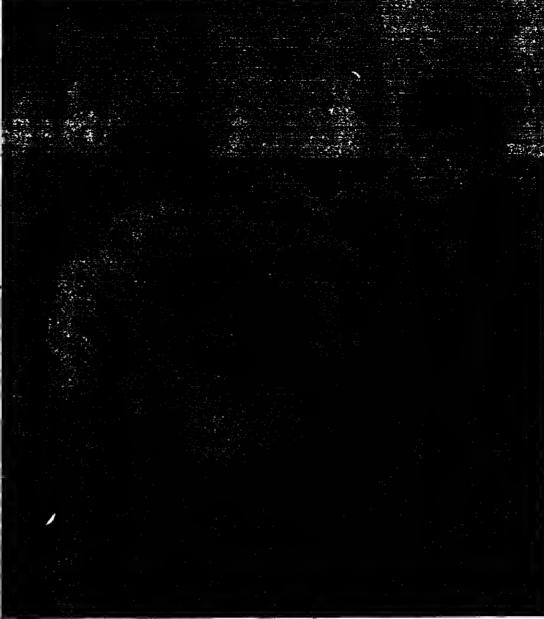
ALGIERS (R) — Veteran politicians were excluded from the leadership of the ruling Algerian FLN party Monday when its politburo was elected by a large majority, the official news agency APS said. Diplomats said the new decision-making politburo confirmed President Chadli Benjedid's decision to liberalise the Algerian political system when he began political and economic reforms after widespread rioting in October 1988. The National Liberation Front (FLN), which has ruled Algeria in a one-party system since independence in 1961, is now one of over 30 political parties authorised by an amended constitution introduced by Chadli. The party's central committee elected a 15-member politburo and re-elected Abdul Hamid Mehri as party secretarygeneral. The new polithuro comprises Prime Minister Mouloud Hamrouche and four members of the government, but none of the old-guard party leaders who helped run the country during the late President Hourai Boumedienne's term of office. APS quoted Mehri as saying the new politburo would press ahead with the reforms designed to end dogmatic socialist policies in force since independence. Benjedid told the central committee the FLN "must take into account the country's new realities" as one of several parties and that Algeria was living through a period which required the party to consider the experience of other political movements.

Israel jalls Arab for life

LOD (R) - Israel jailed an Arab for life Monday after he pleaded guilty to commanding a group which hurled a hand grenade into a crowded shopping street in the city of Haifa, wounding 25 people. Samir Sarsawi, 22 from Ibtin village, told the military court that be was recruited by the Palestine Liberation Organisation's mainstream Fatch faction in Egypt in 1987. Sarsawi, who said he took nrders from PLO handlers in Hungary, was accused of planning the grenade attack in Haifa in August 1988 and of driving the get-away car. Five other Arabs have been convicted in connection with the attack. The man who threw the grenade was jailed for life. Prosecutors also accused Sarsawi's group of several firebomb attacks on Israeli cars and of planning to kill former Army Chief of Staff Rafael Eitan, who directed the Israel's invasion of Lebanon in 1982 and is now a right-wing parliamentarian.

Iran seizes 112 kg of heroin

Iranian Revolutionary Guards seized I12 kg of heroin and arrested 24 sanugglers in a series of raids in western Iran, the national news agency said Tuesday. IRNA, received in Nicosia, said the haul had a street value of \$7 million. Iran, which officially admits to having one million drug addicts, lies on a narcotics-smuggling route from Afghanistan and Pakistan. It has executed more than 900 drug traffickers this year.



BLEAK CHRISTMAS: Israeli soldiers equipped with gear to counter protests patrol Bethlehem

Blow killed Shin Bet detainee — pathologist

Bank (Agencies) - An American pathologist has said that a Palestinian in the custody of the Shin Bet secret service died of internal bleeding after a blow to the abdomen.

The injury could not have been accidental or self-inflicted, said Michael Baden, director of forensic sciences for the New York state police.

Badeo represented civil rights groups and the family of 27-year-old Khalid Kamel Sheikh Ali at the six-hour autopsy Sunday.

"One case like this is an alarm. Two cases like this would be a red alarm," Baden said Monday at a news conference in the offices of Al Haq, a human rights group based in Ramallah in the occupied West Bank.

The autopsy report came in the wake of growing concern over the treatment of prisoners in the custody of the Shin Bet secret ser-

The families of two other Palestinians who died in Shin Bet custody have requested investigations. One was said to have died after a severe ulcer attack; the other hanged himself, according

to police reports. Baden said Ali had about one litre of blood in his abdominal cavity at the time of the autopsy. A blow to the abdomen caused a rupture of the mesentery, or lining around the intestine, which triggered internal bleeding.

"It would not be an inadvertent blow. It has to be a large amount of force used... and he could not have done it to himself," said Baden, 55, who joined an Israeli pathologist for the autopsy at the request of the U.S. Physicians for Human Rights Organisation.

'The type of injury be had could not be from an accidental

fall," be added. Baden said the blow was from a "hroad, hlunt object, that would include a fist nr a shoe," and that there was evidence of other, nonfatal bruises to the back, legs,

RAMALLAH, occupied West chest and testes. He said there was a "suggestion of finger marks" on Ali's abdomen.

Baden and Israeli pathologist Yehuda Hiss questioned five security officers at Gaza prison, who told them that no force was used during Ali's 50-minute inter-rogation. Baden said they were told that at the end of the interview, Ali stood ap and collapsed, hitting his head on a doorjamh.

"It's the kind of injury you see more often in battered children. It's an unusual type of injury in an adult," he said. "My opinion is that the blow was not inadvertent, but the outcome was.'

Court martial

Meanwhile the Israeli army Monday announced plans to court-martial an Israeli colonel accused of ordering troops to hreak the bones of a group of bound and gagged Palestinian prisoners.

The action follows a unanimous supreme court ruling Sunday that overturned an army decision not to prosecute Yehuda Meir. He will be the highest ranking officer to face trial during the two-year Palestinian uprising.

The military revealed Monday that army chief prosecutor Amnon Straschnow decided last week to indict an unidentified colonel for firing plastic bullets in violation of army orders and fatally wounding a 15-year-old Gazan five months ago.

Meir's trial is expected to touch off a sharp debate over the military's orders concerning the beating of Palestinians.

The independent Maariv newspaper, quoting military sources, said Straschnow may resign after the supreme court overturned his decision not to prosecute Meir.

The court was critical of Straschnow's ruling that Meir's dismisall from the army was adequate punishment.

Meir was reprimanded by Dan

Shomron, the armed forces chief of staff, for the January 1988 incident and given the choice of leaving the army or standing trial. Meir resigned in April but retains his pension rights.

Straschnow said it would have been difficult to try Meir because the army's orders on the use of force were "foggy." Testimony in trials of other

soldiers showed that at the time army orders allowed soldiers to beat stonethrowers to deter further acts. The orders have since been changed to ban such beat-

In accepting an appeal by four Palestinians and the Association for Civil Rights in Israel, supreme court instice Moshe Bejsky

wrote: 'Can we talk at all about 'lack of clarity or 'fogginess' when we are speaking about orders to take people out of their bomes, to tie their arms, to gag them, to beat them with sticks to break their arms and legs?

"Actions of this type are con-demned by every civilised person and no lack of clarity or fog can cover them," Bejsky wrote. Justice Yaakov Kadmi wrote

that Meir's orders to beat bound Palestinian detainees "stands in complete contradiction to the hasie foundations of the nation of Israel. Meir, who served as military

commander of Nablus, the largest town in the West Bank, is accused of ordering troops to beat and break the legs of 20 bound and gagged Palestinians from the nearby towns of Hawara and

Soldiers under his command left beaten and bound Palestimans in a field until other Arabs arrived and rushed then to a bospital He was also investigated in

connection with an incident in which troops beat two Palestinian teenagers in Nablus. The incident was filmed by a U.S. television

Israelis attack Communist base in S. Lebanon

RASHAYA, Lebanon (Agen-cies) — Israeli soldiers backed by tanks and helicopter gunships destroyed a guerrilla base in a pre-dawn thrust into southeast Lebanon Tuesday. Police said two guerrillas were killed and three wounded.

A police spokesman, who cannot be named under standing regulations, said three guerrillas initially reported missing were found unharmed.

The spokesman said the base at Nabi Safi, in the foothills of Mount Hermon, 12 kilometres north of Israel's self-designated border "security zone," was man-ned by the Lebanese Communist

It was Israel's heaviest military opertion in Lebanon since an action against the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC) Dec. 9, 1988.

Israeli officials identified the site of attack as a base of the unist Party headed by George Hawi, used "for organising and launching attacks on the Israeli army and South Lebanon Army (SLA)," which is an Israeli-backed Lebanese militia.

The army earlier erroneously identified the base as belonging to the Palestinian Communist Party. But officials noted that Palestimian guerrillas often cooperate with the Lebanese Communists in attacking Israeli targets

The attack force of 100 commandos pushed out from the "security zone," occupied by the Israelis since 1985, in four tanks and eight armoured personnel carriers at 2 a.m. (midnight GMT) behind a massive artillery barrage, police reported.

The attackers stormed through the village of Kfar Meshki and Lebbaya in the eastern Bekaa Valley after two helicopter gunships blasted them with eight rockets, destroying many houses, the spokesman said.

Forty other commandos weblit Nabi Safa, where they belw the Communists' two-storey cond mand post after raking the balvab with machine gun fire, till ? spokesman added.

He said the attackers puller lot back into the "security zone" audit a.m. (0200 GMT). An Israeli military communation one said the assault force walk

made up of paratroopers, with application and armour support. Artillery batteries manned I the mainly Christian SLA, which operates in the "security zone

with the Israelis, bombarde Nabi Safa, Kfar Meshki and Lel baya for three hours after the G. raiders pulled out. It was not known if there we side

any Israeli casualties. The Israeda military communique said their the But a Communist Party state 101

ment in Beirut said: "The enemion" suffered heavy losses in lives an mid ammunition at the hands of oues heroes who fought hand-to-hanging to repulse the attack." The statement said that tweether

Communist fighters were killes and two wounded. There was no immediate reported of casualties among villagers in Kfar Meshki and Lebbaya.

The two villages along winder Nabi Safa have long been used high the Communists and severage other leftist Lebanese and Palestinian guerrilla factions to launch attacks on the Israel "security zone."

The Israeli-allied SLA militial has come under a series of bombaing and rocket attacks in South Lebanon in the past month. Theoc 3,000-member militia helps the research in the four-to 20 miles billionnettre wide "security zone." Established the zone in the research in th

1985 after ending a three-year occupation of South Lebanon is Reports say up to 1,000 Israelign soldiers still patrol the zone. ...

Iran recognises new Romanian leadership, sacks Bucharest envoy

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Iran rec- Dec. 18. ognised Romania's new govern- Gowhari was sacked Monday ment Tuesday and dismissed on the orders of Velayati, IRNA inc Tehran's ambassador in Bucharest for failing to advise the government of the scale of opposition to Romania's late president, Nicolae Ceausescu,

before he visited Iran Dec. 18. Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, said the Foreign Ministry announced recognition of the Council of the National Salvation Committee in Bucharest in a statement.

"Iran's Foreign Ministry is certain that the two nations' ties will continue, and that after the establishment of the popular government in Romania, these relations will expand," the statement said.

The ministry also informed the Romanian ambassador in Tehran that Iran's Red Crescent Society is ready to send medical aid to Bucharest to help thousands of people wounded in the fighting that toppled Ceausescu, the radio reported. Earlier, the official Islamic Re-

public News Agency, also moni-tored in Cyprus, quoted the Foreign Ministry's director-general for press affairs, Mohammad Hassan Qadiri, as saying ambassador Mohammad Jamshid Gowhari was sacked on the orders of Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati. IRNA said Gowhari was dis-

missed for failing to give the Foreign Ministry an accurate picture of the situation in Romania before Ceausescu arrived in Iran

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

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quoted a ministry spokesman as all saying. He had completed all but "

the last three months of his in assignment in Bucharest. Several Iranian newspapers a strongly criticised the Foreign fre Ministry for allowing Ceausescu D to visit, saying Tehran's revolutionary image would be harmed if it was friendly with governments in that were hated by their own

people. A popular uprising against Ceasusescu began hours before he arrived in Tehran on a prearranged official visit. He returned to Bucharest Wednesday, has overthrown Friday and executed by Romania's new leaders Monday

IRNA said Ceansescu had received a cold reception in Tehran and supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei had called off planned meeting with him. He met President Hashemi

Rafsanjani, who termed Ceausescu's visit "successful" and noted that the grounds for economic cooperation were "completely After Ceausescu left and re-

ports from Romania underlined the brutality of his regime as the mass graves of victims of his secret police were uncovered, Iranian newspapers demanded as official explanation why the Romanian leader had been allowed to visit Tchran.

... Cairo (MS) Baghdad (IA) Jeddah (SV)

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Tel: 773111-19 PROGRAMME ONE Educational programme News summary in Arabic 17:30 18:00 18:05 . Cairo news message Local program 20:00 20:30 Arabic series Arabic programme News in Arabic 21:30 23:00 Perfecto L'Appart News in French 19:00 19:15 . Varieties News in Hebrew News in Arabic Game, Set and Match News in English A Very British Coup PRAYER TIMES 11.37 . Dhuhr

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Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785. St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590. Church of the Annunciation 637440 De la Salle Church Tel. 661757 Terraumta Church Tel: 622366 Church of the Annunciation ciation Tel Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331. Orthodox Church Tel. phraim Church Tel. 771751. an International Church Tel. 685326. 811295 The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 654932. WEATHER Bulletin supplied by the Department of

tt will be partly cloudy and a slight drop in temperatures will occur. Winds will be northwesterly moderate. In winds will be northerly moder

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 15, Aqaba 20. Humidity readings: Amman 55 per cent, Aqaba 52 per USEFUL TELEPHONE

NUMBERS **NIGHT DUTY** AMMAN: Dr. Fayez Jalloqa Dr. Khaled Mn'adi

6242077 743500 894184 849362 Dr. Mohammad Al 'Ajam . Dr. Bahjat Badir 778336 637055 Al Asema pharms 623672 Al Salam obarmac . 636730 Dr. 'Adei Hatamle) (985238)

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Civil Defence Department 630341 Rescue...... Civil Defence Emergency Rescre Police 192, 621111, 637777 891228 Blood Bank 775121 Highway Police Traffic Police 296390 Public Security Department Hotel Complaints 605800 Price Complaints Water and Sewerage Telephone Information (directory assistance) Overseas Calls . 010230 Central Amman Telephone 623101 . 66110 Jordan Television 773111 Water Authority
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HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32 Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn ... 644281/6 813813/32 Akileh Maternity, J. Amn... 642441/2 Jabal Amman Maternity...... 642362 664171/4 Shmeisani Hospital . 669131 . 845845 University Hospital ... Al-Muasher Hospital The Islamic, Abdali 667227/9 666127/37 664164/6 777101/3 775111/26 Army, Marka ... Queen Alia Hospital . 602240/50 Amal Hospital . (09)983323 (09)991071 (09)986732 Zaren Govt. Hespital Zaren National Hospital ... Ibu Sina Hospital

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ick Jordan-Iraq higher ba panel meets today

AMMAN (J.T.) — Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan arrives in Amwww.wednesday at the head of an raci delegation to take part in the Joint Higher Jordanian-Iraqi Committee, which will start here Wednesday. Ramadan will also shend the opening ceremony of the Arab Cooperation Council's (ACC) general secretariat pre-

The Jordanian side to the joint committee meeting will be headed by Prime Minister Mudar Badran. The committee meets annually in Amman and Baghdad

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· To prepare for the committee's meeting, a technical committee held a meeting in Amman Monday and reviewed Jordanian-Iraqi relations in the various fields. The meeting was co-chaired by Ministry of Industry and Trade

Secretary General Mohammad Al Saggaf and Iraqi Central Bank Counsellor Abdul Wahid Al Mahzoumi. In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Saqqaf said the volume of trade, between Iraq and Jordan and relations in transport, health affairs and agriculture could figure high in the committee's

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

KING, BUSH DISCUSS ISSUES: His Majesty King Hussein Monday exchanged views over the phone with the United States President George Bush on developments in the international arena. King Hussein expressed his best wishes to President Bush and the American people nn Christmas. (Petra)

CROWN PRINCE RECEIVES THANKS: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Tuesday received a cable of thanks from participants in a symposium on the experiences of Arab countries m census, which was held in Amman from Dec. 19 to Dec. 21. The participants noted the support Jordan provides for the efforts made by Arab countries to advance statistical work and population

PSD SPORTS CELEBRATION: Deputising for the Public Security Department (PSD) director, his assistant for traffic and foreigner affairs, Brigadier Muayyad Mubaslat, who is also chairman of the administrative committee of the Police Sports Association, Tuesday attended a major celebration held at the World of Sports Centre to mark His Majesty King Hussein's birthday. Addressing the celebration, Mubaslat stressed the importance of cooperation and coordination between the centre and the PSD in promoting constructive sports. At the end of the celebration; Mubaslat presented belts to graduates from two tackwondo and judo courses and awards to the PSD champions who won the first and second ranks in a marathon held recently in Spain. The celebration was attended by the director of the Royal Police Academy and other senior PSD nfficials. (Petra)

POCKETS OF POVERTY: Ministry of Social Development's Secretary General Mohammad Al Suqour Tuesday said that Jordan had gone a longway on the path of providing educational, health, water, electric and communication services. In a lecture he delivered at Mu'ta University's faculty of administrative sciences, Sugour spoke about the pockets of poverty in Jordan and outlined the socio-economic characteristics of the low-income families and their location. Sugour cited a study undertaken by the ministry which called for increasing the volume of investments and for finding job opportunities, developing agricultural projects. (Petra)

JORDAN-INDIA TIES: Lower House of Parliament Speaker Suleiman Arar Tuesday discussed with the Indian ambassador to Jordan bilateral relations and issues pertaining to the exchange of visits and expertise between Parliamentarians from both countries. The Indian ambassador called at Arar's office to congratulate him on his election of the House's speaker. On Monday Arar received congratulations from the Tunisian, Egyptian and Qatari ambassadors to Jordan. (Petra)

DLDNA EXHIBITION: Culture Minister Khalid Al Karaki Tuesday opened at the Department of Libraries, National Archives and Documentation (DLDNA) an exhibition of photographs. The epartment to mark the National Documentation and Archives Week. It includes photographs of the late Sharif Hussein Ibn Ali and his sous Prince Ali, Prince Abdullah, Prince Faisal and Prince Zaid. The photos also depict main events of the Great Arab Revolt. On the occasion, a symposium entitled "Documents and Intellectual Trends of the Great Arab Revolt" was held. The main speakers at the symposium were Jordanian historian Sulaiman Al Mousa, Mamdouh Rousan, and Suhaila

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- * An art exhibition by artists from Jordan and other Arab countries at Al Wasiti Gallery, Plaza Hotel.
- The youths art exhibition at the Spanish Cultural Centre. A plastic art exhibition by Arij Al Hamad and Ibrahim Nabahneh at the University of Jordan.
- the Royal Cultural Centre.
- * An art exhibition by Iyad Al Masri and Qasem Al Samir at the
- Housing Bank Complex.
- An art exhibition by Shaher Abu Ghazaleh at the Royal Caltaral Centre - 6:00 p.m.
- * A graphic art exhibition at the Soviet Cultural Centre.

Martial law powers limited

Violation of combatting

communism law number 91 of - Affiliation or officially belonging to a political party whether unlicensed or banned.

- Violation of the defence law or any branch law stemming from the jurisdiction of the defence Attacking government employees or officers and members of the Arab army or police and

impeding them from carrying out their official duties. Violation of orders issued by

the politary governor or any of Fring arms in populated of the Kingdom, even with

a licensed weapon, on the occa-Part B of Article 461 of the ment law.

Partition in the second with counterfeit

Comes stipulated in Part A of Article 24 of the passports law fins law deals with forging pasperts or selling them). et for revenge.

- Violation of martial law or its directives. - Crimes described in articles

187, 326, 328, 327, 330, 333 and 335 of the punishment law. - Crimes described in articles 16, 17, 18 of the supply law number 28 of 1988 and its amend-

The Cabinet's statement added that other crimes punishable by martial courts "such as the country's security, embezzling public funds, hribes as well as martial directives regarding economic, financial and currency crimes, will be studied by a special min-

isterial committee. The committee, according to the statement, will present suggestions for dealing with effects of cancelling martial authority completely as well as treating legal centres which came into being as a result of martial laws. The Cabinet gave the committee

two months. The committee will be headed by Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister, and the ministers of finance and justice as well as Central Bank governor and the legal advisor at the Prime



Prime Minister Mudar Badran Tuesday meets with delegations representing various districts (Petra

Delegations congratulate Badran

AMMAN (J.T.) - Prime Minister Mudar Badran Tuesday received delegations representing Tafileh governorate, Jarash district and Butoush family from Karak which called at the Prime Ministry to congratulate him nn his appointment as prime minister.

The delegations members, who were accompanied hy Lower House members Ibrahim Al Ghababsheh and Issa Al Rimnni, voiced pride in and allegiance to the Hashemite leadership and pledged full support and participation to achieve the noble objectives defined by the country's lead-

They noted that "the atmos-

phere of democracy and responsible freedom is a starting point for a new era." They expressed hope that Jordan, 'despite its limited resources and the difficult circumstances it is passing through, will further its passing through, wil further its achievements and will serve as an example in the Arah re-

Replying to the delegations, Badran stressed that his government was determied to enhance cooperation with the legislative authority and would ensure the highest degree of consultation and participation in an atmosphere of npenness and

He added that the government would discharge the duties entrusted to it in the best manner and overcome the

obstacles facing the country. Badran also received delegations from Ajloun and Ramtha districts and notables and tribal heads from Karak, Tafileh and Amman governorates, who congratulated him nn his appointment.

Badran also discussed scopes nf coordination and cooperation between Jardan and the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) general secretariat with ACC Secretary General Hilmi Nammer, who called at the Prime Ministry to congratulate

Jordan, Egypt seek to boost youth cooperation

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Donri reviewed the historical Youth Ibrahim Al Ghababsheh stages of the Arab Natinn and Tuesday received an Egyptian delegation taking part in the first youth gathering of the Arab Cooperation Conneil (ACC) member states and reviewed scopes of cooperation between. Jordan and Egypt in sports and youth affairs. Ghababsheh stressed the im-

portance of enhancing cooperation among the youth in the four ACC countries in particular and among Arab youth in general.

Participants in the gathering ilso listened to a lecture on the history of the Arab Natinn, delivered by Abdal Aziz Al Douri from the University of Jurdan.

outlined the factors affecting the Arab personality, the Jardan News Agency, Petra, said. Douri stressed the role of Islam in demonstrating the bright cultural face of the Arab Nation and noted the great scientific, philosophical and intellectual contributions that Muslim schnlars and intellectuals have made to

On Mnnday, participants had an open dialogue nn scopes nf cooperation among the three Arab countries - the ACC, the Gulf Cooperation Council and the Arab Maghreh Union.

General Hisham Hassan Tawfig briefed participants no the ACC's establishment and objectives. He pointed out that the ACC was designed to counter external challenges facing the ACC member states and to cope with the latest developments. Tawfiq noted that the ACC was established on an economie basis to face the populatinn growth in the ACC countries and to utilise natural resources and crude material in these countries with a view to achieving enmprehensive development. The I sador to Jordan briefed partici pants nn the objectives of the Arab Maghreb Union.



PALESTINE FOLKLORE EXHIBITION: Lower House of Parliament Speaker Suleiman Arar Tuesday opened the Palestinian folklore exhibition, organised by Amman Community College, as a gesture of solidarity with people in the occupied Arab territories on the occasion of

the second anniversary of the intifada. The week-long exhibition includes traditional Palestinian dresses, embroideries, handicrafts, artistic plates, photographs and posters. It also includes a book corner, stickers and tape and video cassettes. (Petra).

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House panel begins probe into student clashes at Yarmouk

By Mariam M. Shahin Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — A parliamentary panel charged with investigating student clashes at the University of Yarmouk held its first meeting Tuesday. The seven-member panel made up of members of the Lower House, met with 14 students who were involved in the clashes. The students, some of whom had been arrested and released after the incidents, submitted their testimonies while deputies posed questions concerning the incidents in a

session lasting five hours.
Students said they hoped that the parliamentary inves-tigation would lead to administrative reforms in the uni-

We are confident that the deputies are very concerned about what happened in Yar-mouk last week and earlier and we are sure they realise the tension and mistrust that exists between the deanship of student affairs and the students," said one of the students. We gave them the facts and are sure that they will act upon their findings. We were welcomed by them in a very sincere and earnest manner."

Deputies serving on the special panel said that it was too early to make any comment, but that they had received statements from the students and plan to carry out further investigation into the causes of the unrest which has plagued the University of Yarmonk in

unrest resulted in the death of three students at the university in 1986 when students and security forces clashed

The clashes last week took place during a week of cultural activities held to commemorate the second anniversary of the Palestinian intifada, Students were beaten by rival students and an exhibition of Palestinian arts was slashed with knives and torn apart. Although some reports said that the clashes pitted Jorda-nian students of East Bank origin against those of West Bank origin, many students who spoke to the Jordan Times said it was not so.

In a very busy week for parliamentarians, who are scheduled to take a "vote of confidence in the government of Mudar Badran, Saturday. two of the legislative body's four permanent committees met Monday and Tuesday to begin discussions and investigations of pressing matters at hand. The temporary appeals committee also met Tuesday to begin hearings of complaints and appeals pertaining to alleged errors made during the Nov. 8 elections.

A two-and-a-half hour discussion of administrative matters highlighted the first meeting nf the 20-member Legal Committee on Christmas Day - Monday. The panel, chaired by Deputy Hussein Mujalli, has to study 65 laws. The committee decided not to debate

the laws by their respective been done by previous Parliaments. They would be debated based on urgency. Some laws may need change immediately "for the good of the citizen." said one committee member. The committee is scheduled to meet again next Monday.

Issues pertaining to Jordanians of Palestinian origin, who are holders of the West Bank residence "green card" and citizens originating from the Gaza Strip were discussed by the Administrative Committee in a meeting attended by Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Interior Salameh Hamad. The deputies were briefed on the legal and administrative implications of the disengagement on those now halding a West Bank residence permit. The committee also discussed efforts to look into government management and alleged mismanagement in the last decade. The Finance Committee, which met last week. has already asked government offices for their financial state-ments dating from 1979-1989, said one committee member.

The appeals committee heard testimonies by parliamentary candidates from the Ajloun district who charged that errors in counting or administrative errors such as mispelling of names had resulted in their loss in the Nov. 8 elections. Panel members said that investigations had not yet

Amman agrees to ease restrictions on W. Bank

AMMAN (J.T.) — The government has agreed to Palestine Liberatinn Organisation (PLO) requests to ease restrictions on the movement of people and goods from the Israeli-occupied West Bank to Jordan, officials quoted by Renters said Tuesday.

Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Salem Masa'deh was earlier quoted as saying that Jordan would review the aftermath of its disengagement with the West Bank 18 months ago after 38 years of unity.

"We shall study all repercus-sions that followed Jurdan's decision to severe (legal and adminis-trative) ties with the West Bank and will take measures to ease any hardships that affected people on a human or personal level," Masa'deh told the Arabiclanguage daily Al Dustour.

His remarks followed a visit to Amman last week by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat.

government expressed its will to abolish measures that are complicating matters for our people in the occupied land," PLO executive committee member Mohammed Milhem was quoted by Reu-

ters as saying.
Masa'deh said the government would extend the duration of Jnrdanian passports given tn new measures to ease the movement of West Bankers and Gazans and farm produce into

After the disengagement, Amman hegan issuing temporary Jordanian passports to people in the West Bank. The passports valid for two years instead of the previous five, enabled people to travel but not to qualify for Jordanian citizenship.

Jordan used to buy almost half the West Bank's agricultural output, mainly olive oil and citrus,

"During talks with Arafat, the and also gave help to marketing it abroad.

After the break, it told West Bankers it would nnly buy their products according to the needs of the Jurdanian market, although it continued to issue certificates of origin for West Bank agricultural and industrial products.

The Director of the Interior Ministry's Fallow-up and Inspectinn Department, Mohammad Odwan, said the department facilitates the passage of West Bankers and Gazans while giving special consideration to humanitarian aspects. He pointed out that the department facilitates the entry of injured or wounded for medical treatment in hospitals in Jordan. He added that the department allows temporary residence to those married to women hving on the East Bank and who do not have permits and dependents of those hving in Jordan.



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Missed opportunities and lost lives

WITH the elimination of the last remnants of opposition to the Romanian uprising and the execution of Nicolae Ceausescu and his wife Elena, the nightmare in Romania is over. The loss of lives of tens of thousands of Romanians in the bloody revolt dampens a bit the joy of the success of the magnificent Romanian revolution but does not change its eternal message; the success of people's insurgency against great odds in overthrowing tyranny and slavery, both intellectual, political and economic; not to mention the religious deprivation that Romanians have had to endure under Ceausesch's reign of terror.

The moral of the Romanian story is simple and precise: No matter how tight is the pressure cooker, it is bound to explode when the pressure becomes unbearable and protonzed. The leadership in Romania had had many opportunities to learn from and comprehend the many repeated lessons of history but chose instead to ignore them in arrogant defiance in the false belief that what applies elsewhere will never apply to them. The self-defeating confidence that with a mighty internal security machinery eli will remain under control forever also led the Romanian lendership astray and into a blind alley. Instead of cultivating harmonious relations with the people of Romania and making a stronger and more determined effort to win their understanding and support, the Romanian leadership selected to go over and above them; thinking all the time that their reliance on might will indefinitely assure them places at the helm. It would have been that much more simpler and wiser had the Romanian leadership communicated with their people through an elected parliament. They had brilliant events all around them that told stories about the attimate and inevitable triumph of wisdom, fairness and common sense over slavery and iron-fisted rule but it chose to ignore these as if nothing is happening in its very backyard. The recent examples of Poland, Hungary, Czecheslovakia and East Germany should have given them food for thought. Alas, nothing penetrated their minds and hearts and they continued instead their reign of terror unalarmed by the events and changes that have swept through the entire European continent.

But at last there was euphoria in Romania yet tinged with grief over the loss of so many Romanian lives which could have been spared just as that of the Romanian leaders could have been spared if the repeated lessons of history were appreciated and understood. The big question that remains is whether the remaining pockets of slavery elsewhere in the world would beed the last lesson of Romania and start doing something tangible and sensible to start the process of communication with their respective peoples. Unfortunately, the odds are still against them doing so because the history of mankind is full of stories of missed opportunities.

Jordan Press Editorials

Al Ra'i Arabic daily Tuesday discussed the Palestinian uprising in the occupied Arah territories, describing it as one that represented the wind of change which has been sweeping Eastern Europe and other parts of the world over in 1989. The paper said as the Europeans are struggling to rebuild their continent and to unify their nations, the Palestinians have been busily fighting the occupation forces with all available means and have been offering a huge sacrifice and continuing to face suffering and tragedies. World leaders have been unanimous in their support for the Palestinian people, expressing their admiration of the oppressed people's courage and steadfastness as they watch defenceless men and women struggling for their freedom and independence, said the paper. But it added, that the time has come now for the world community to come to the aid of the Palestinian people in word. and deed. We are awaiting assistance by the world community and support for our struggle. We are awaiting for solidarity with the Arab people of Palestine, the paper urged. It said that support and backing for the Palestinians is support for victory of justice

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily praised Bishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa who has been visiting the occupied Arab territories and voicing the support of the black people of Africa for the rights of the Palestinian people. Abdul Rahtm Onner said that Tutu likened the Palestinians to the black people of South Africa who are also struggling for freedom. Tutu expressed his staunch support for the creation of an independent Palestinian state on Palestinian soil and an end to occupation. The writer said that the colonialists including the white South Africans and the Israelis form an alliance designed to suppress the wishes of the oppressed people under their rule, while the Africans, the Palestinians and other oppressed peoples form an undeclared alliance to confront injustice and tyranny. With the continuing sweep of the winds of change in all parts of the world, the liberation movements in Africa and Palestine are bound to receive further backing and support and are bound to achieve their aspirations, the writer added. He said that Desmand Tutu's statements in Jerusalem and other parts of the occupied lands he visited, clearly manifest the solidarity of peace-loving people-around the world with the Palestinians, and their backing for their legitimate rights.

Al Dustour Arabic daily paper warned all dictators around the world that the day will come when they will be facing the fate of-Nicolae Ceausescu who had ruled his people with repression and tyranny for more than two decades. The paper said that with the success of the uprising in Romania and the execution of the dictator, the Romanian people are bound to enter a new era of democracy and restructuring. The people of Romania struggled for so long and so hard to rid themselves of oppression and tyranny, but there are other people around the globe who are plagued by regimes no less oppressive and ruled by dictators who established their rule with repressive and criminal means, the paper said. It said what happened to the tyrant in Bucharest should serve as a lesson for all dictators elsewhere as there is no. force that can stand in the path of the democracy movement that will sweep everything in its way and end injustice.

Stalin built fortress collapses from failures

Editor's note — The ouster of Romania's hard-line Communist regime caps five months of political upheaval that pocked Eastern Europe. The events demonstrated the Rendick new artificide toward countries it once treated like virtual fictions.

Gorbachev's vision supplants agreements by the World War II

allies that led to the continent's

For more than four decades,

Europe from the Bug River on the Soviet-Polish border to the

German City of Weimar, where

Bach wrote his great fugues.

Europe seemed immutably di-

vided into Socialist and Capitalist

The West set up NATO to deal

with any military threat, and the

members of the Communist Bloc

The schism of Europe had its hated symbol, the Berlin Wall. It

made concrete Winston Chur-

chill's alarmed rhetoric in 1946

when he told students at a small

college in Missouri that "from

Stettin in the Baltic to Trieste in

the Adriatic, an Iron curtain has

curtain - when Yugoslavia in the

late 1940s and later Albania suc-

cessfully rebelled against Mos-cow's domination. But the most

stunning changes awaited the ad-

vent of Gorbachev and the whirl-

regimes were ousted in Poland,

Bulgaria, East Germany,

Czeehoslovakia and finally

Romania. Roman Catholie

Tadeusz Mazowiecki became Po-

land's first non-Communist pre-

mier since World War II.

Beginning in August, hard-line

wind year of 1989.

True, there were rips in that

'descended across the continent."

formed the Warsaw Pact.

division into East and West after

the defeat of Nazi Germany.

By John-Thor Dahlburg The Associated Press

MOSCOW — It was the fortress Stalin built, from the Baltic to the Adriatic. It held some 100 million human souls. Last week its last bastion fell, stormed by hundreds of thousands of Romanians enraged by Nicolae Ceausescu's

A new order in Europe, in the making through 40 years of repression and economic failure, suddenly is being born with the blessing and connivance of President Mikhail Gorbachev.

In the 19th century, another European who thought in conti-nent-wide terms, the French Emperor Napoleon, dreamed of a "continental system" to integrate the territory he conquered from Spain to Russia. The philosophical father of Communism, Karl Marx, predicted a proletarian revolution would sweep Europe.

Now Gorbachev, one of Marx's ideological heirs, preaches the creation of a "common European home" where after years of Kremlin domination, the nations of Eastern Europe will be virtually free to pursue policies they set themselves.

The fundamental changes of 1989 mean that the five East Bloc countries must set up new goveraments, reorganise economies and begin to work out what kinds of relations they will have with the Soviet Union, what ties will be forged with Western countries. The events in East Germany raise the special issue of a reunified Germany in the heart of ment is no longer Communistdominated, and Hungary's parliament has approved democratic,

multiparty elections next year. In Berlin, millions of East Gernans have poured through newly cut breaches in the wall, persomifying the growing symbiosis be-tween East and West. Berliners sang and danced with joy Friday night when an opening was made in the 28-year-old wall near the with the Red Army serving as its gendarme, Soviet-Style Com-munism reigned in Eastern Brandenburg Gate, long a symbol of Germany's division.

Though the brutal security forces that kept Ceausescu in power for 24 years was fighting back across Romania, killing hundreds, it was clearly the culminating act of a revolution that may deprive the term "Soviet

Bloc" of any meaning.

The five months that remade politics in Eastern Europe passed with breathtaking speed. With Gorbachev in power, leaders like Czechoslovakia's Milos Jakes and Bulgaria's Todor Zhivkov, who bankrupted themselves by failing to meet human or economic needs, could no longer count

on Kremlin support. Without that backing, unpopular Communists had to compromise with the people, or give up

In 1942, Josef Stalin raged that the Nazis had "turned Europe into a prison of nations." But it was the Soviet dictator, his army and his political disciples who would subjugate Central Europe and its inhabitants after driving out the German invaders.

In a sense, revolt began a month after Stalin's death. On an April morning in 1953, East Berlin construction workers from the Stalinallee site went on strike over pay cuts. Within 48 hours the protests spread throughout the city, with demonstrators

chanting, "we want to be free and not slaves." Mobs tried to take over government headquarters.

The Soviet army commandant in Berlin proclaimed a state of siege and two motorised divisions occupied the city. Protesters who were caught were executed. Order was restored by 9 p.m., and the Red Army moved to crush worker revolts in Leipzig, Dresden and elsewhere.

The scenario was repeated in Hungary in 1956 and Czechoslovakia in 1968.

But in 1989, when East Ger-man leader Erich Honecker's rule was menaced by a popular uprising, Soviet troops remained in their barracks, and Honecker was deposed on Oct. 18.

It was renewed proof of Gor-bachev's professed unwillingness to meddle in the internal affairs of his allies, as well as a way of getting rid of an old guard Com-munist who rejected much of his reform agenda.

The Soviets stress the countries they once treated as virtual provinces of their own nation must remain in the Warsaw Pact, meaning Europe's "age of the blocs" is not yet over, at least wilitarily.

But with non-Communist leaders seeking a mix of Capitalism and Socialism to better their citizens' lives, the East-West

ideological schism is dying. The Soviets' preoccupation with their own pressing economic and nationalities problems makes

the new order possible. "In a nutshell, we need a normal external environment for our domestic work," Gorbachev

said in October. By opening to the West, he also hopes to counter the technological obsolesence that now

injections of Capitalist know-how and money.

Since becoming Soviet leader in March 1985, Gorbachev has repudiated Stalin's heritage of political terror and centralised control. But it was only this year he showed how far he was willing to deviate from past Kremlin practice in dealing with the allies, and to risk Soviet geopolitical

Victory in World War II over Nazi Germany brought the Red Army into the heart of Central Europe, where it occupied the capitals of 10 countries, from Berlin to Sofia. It retook the Polish Ukraine, seized Ruthenia from Czechoslovakia, and forced Romania to relinquish Bessar-

That triump erased the consequences of 1917, when the Bolsheviks were forced to swap territory for peace, and restored the western facade of Russia that from Peter the Great to Alexander I, the czars had built up over two centuries.

The Communists were numerically few in postwar Central Europe, but their weakness was compensated by the prestige they gained as leaders of the anti-Nazi resistance, and by the tanks and regiments of the occupying Red Army. To augment their influence, Communists opted to crete coalitions.

In the new governments, Moscow's allies settled for a few inistries, but chose them with care: Interior, police, justice. The gained access to dossiers and forces they could use later to compromise and purge their poli-

Coalitions of democratic forces had reigned in liberated Eastern Europe in 1945. By 1949, the Soviet Union, which had no allies

before the war, was flanked by eight "people's democracies," and many Communists predicted the red tide would keep rising.

Only Yugoslavia shook free of & the Soviets, with leader Josip Broze Tito accusing Stalin of camouflaging colonialist aims

"This subjugation of small peo-ples has only one goal," Tho declared, "and this goal is certainly not world revolution, but world hegemony, the domination of the USSR, an imperialist power, over other peoples."

In 1947, a meeting assembled representatives of the "people's democracies" in Poland, and the Kominform was created to supervise ideological subjugation of the Kremlin's satellites. The next year, it excommunicated Tito for 'deviationism."

The smallest of the Balkan countries, Albania, broke with the Soviet Union in 1961, ironically because it accused Soviet leaders of betraying the ideals of Stain. It remains a virtual hermit

Starting with Nikita S. Khrushchev, the Soviets who succeeded Stalin allowed Eastern Europe countries more leeway in setting domestic policy. But until Gorbachev, they continued to insist on being the final arbiters of Socialist orthodoxy.

This month the Soviets admitted the 1968 Warsaw Pact invasion of Czechoslovakia ordered by Leonid L. Brezhnev's Kromba had been a mistake.

Though thousands of people were reported killed in the struggle between pro-Ceausescu and reform forces in Romania, the Soviets insisted they would not intervene militarily to aid the reformers because of the bitter.

East Bloc revolutions force a new

By Maud Beelman The Associated Press

THE REVOLUTIONS sweeping Eastern Europe have become revolutions of the mind. Each goverament that falls makes people worldwide rethink 40 years of competing ideologies and ponder what, if anything, will replace the "cold war."

Filling the vacuum could be new concern about social, economic and environmental issues, historians and sociologists say. But there could also be a resurgence of old conflicts or growing

The cold war has "organised the world for us. It's defined friends and foes, burdens and dangers. It's been a very powerful matrix for sorting out all the things that go on in the world. If it's removed the world is bound to look more chaotic," said Michael Mandeibaum, an East-West specialist at the U.S. Coun-

cil on Foreign Relations. In addition, "the East-West confrontation has been the centerpiece of foreign policy," Man-delbaum said. "I think what we're facing now is a kind of doughnut foreign policy with the centre disappearing, and I think it's unclear what will replace the East-West conflict.

Sparred by Mikhail Gorbachev's Soviet reforms, Poland, Hungary, East Germany, Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria, in rapid succession, have begun moving away from traditional unist systems to greater democracy and market-orienta-

Questions about whether Gorbachev will succeed at home, the

European Common Market of 1992 and possible German reunification add to the complexity and uncertainty for policy-

The post-cold war era will be "more integrated, more motley," said Andrei S. Markovits, a political science professor at Boston University and senior associate at Harvard's Centre for European

"There won't be good guys, bad guys. There'll be good guys some of the time," he said. "It may make it more complicated. It may make it even unsettling that answers. ... But I think it'll be more thoughtful." Political parties whose raison

or Capitalism will also have to come up with a new argument to appeal to the electorate. "There'll be more work for

d'etre was battling Communism

philosophers and less for generals, more for economists and less for security specialists," Mande-

Many East-West specialists, historians and sociologists portray the post-cold war world as one in which regional conflicts replace global battles of Comn vs. Capitalism; superpower influences diminish as regional power centres grow; illiances change with the issues; isolationist tendencies risk increasing; and world economy and the environment move to the

Patricia Nelson Limerick, a University of Colorado history professor who is herself baffled by the rapid change, believes what's going on in Eastern



Europe presents challenge and risk.

"The opportunity is shifting energy and attention to other concerns - environment, distribution of wealth concerns. The risk is a kind of complacency. now we don't have to care about anything but ourselves. Now we just have to try to get a promotion in our firm or try to get a better VCR."

"But the opportunity I really do think is a great one," she added.

Amid the optimism, there are cautionary notes that the cold war may simply be dormant, that its absence may uncover long-simmering feuds and that sudden changes could be destabilising. "It's possible there will be a lot of instability all over the world," said William Schneider, a political analyst at the American Enter-

prise Institute. You could see all kinds of breakdowns in public order in Europe and elsewhere as Communist systems deteriorate," he said, adding that it could bolster conservative arguments for militrary preparedness and interven-

The absence of a superpower

conflict also could unmask historic rivalries in Eastern Europe, said the Romanian-born Marko-"The track record pre-1930 was fraught with ethnie strife," he

not very good. Countries were said. "There is not one country in Eastern Europe that doesn't have a claim on one of its neighbours.' Robert Lieber, a Georgetown

University government professor and East-West specialist, agrees, and says that if the world is witnessing the end of the East-West divide "there is at least a possibility of greater conflict within Eastern Europe, between Hungary and Romania or between Turkey and Bulgaria. And some of those potential conflicts have been held back by Soviet domination of Eastern Europe in the past."

In Lieber's view of the postcold war era, the United States will remain the only dual econoinic and military power. But re-gional power centres will flourish, such as Western Europe, Japan cited as example the change in such as Western Europe, Japan and East Asia's other rising eco-nomic powers, Brazil in Latin America, Nigeria in sub-Saharan Africa, Egypt in the Middle East, India in South Asia, he said.

"So what you're getting is more diversity both at a global level and regionally," Lieber said. "It is likely that cooperation will continue among the industrial democracies, but it's certainly possible there could be at least as much conflict and differences outside that realm... even without superpower involvement."

The new world will be "multipolar," experts say, more complex but less rigid than the "bipolar" one that once dominated.

But while global economy and the environment could take on greater presence as world issues; most agree that nothing will match the cold war in ideological intensity and potential destructiveness.

Whether anything needs to is a subject of debate.

There is a group of psychologists who would argue there is a fundamental psychological need to have an enemy. And that when one enemy is removed that fundamental psychological need will be expressed in simply a different political direction," said University of California Psychology Professor Philip Tetlock, who studies people's response to poli-

tical events. The theory holds that humans have a "certain reservoir of hostility that needs to find a socially acceptable outlet. And people in the mass public take their cues from their leaders about what

American attitudes toward China in the 1970s following U.S. President Richard Nixon's visit, although Chinese policy did not

If Americans feel a need to-seek out a new enemy, Markovits said, Japan might be "a very likely candidate" because of its concluic prowess!

However, Tetlock said he doesn't think people psychologically need an enemy. "There's plenty of cultural, economic and political reasons for human beings to come into conflict without positing there is an inherent

tendancy to be hateful." Tetlock also said he wasn't sure !!! humanity needed a "world vision" such as the cold war pro-

"I think people vary actually inthe degree to which they need a the grand overarching scheme to impose order on their world," hesuaded that the world in the absence of the East-West conflict is going to be as boring and . predictable as people might

LETTERS

Free the 'Zones'

wonder who was the source of wisdom who advised that all manufacturing carried out in all free zones located in Jordan do. not qualify for a certificate of

How on earth can a manufac-

turing facility export to a wide range of countries if there is no certificate of origin, which is a must by most importing countries.

One time I called at the Curtoms Department and asked them if the above was true. The reply I received was to the affect that "if you want a certificate of origin for your products so that you can export, you must manu-facture outside the free zone, in

Therefore the free zones of Zarqa and Aqaba are on the

moon! In Dubai where things are notmal, a certificate of origin is issued very simply saying "Iabal. Ali Free Zone," Dubai.

Why is it that there always has to be a problem facing any include rial project to be initiated. Jordan.

If the authorities want the ptle wate sector to invest and play role in the economic development of Jordan, they must be logisted. and take decisions based on the meeds of the business/industries community, so that the Kingdon

may benefit in the long run Simplicity and logic will always be the answer to success I hope sincerely that the work cerned authorities do not part local investors away from Inchestors seek Dubai as an alternation

De Klerk assessed after 100 days as president UDF Secretary General Popo townships with almost unlimited now. Some sort of a start on state of emergency powers of

By Brendan Boyle Reuter

CAPE TOWN - F.W. de Klerk has changed the face of white politics during his first 100 days as president, but life is little changed for blacks in the shanty towns that fringe South Africa's white

Beach apartheid is gone, dissidents have marched against apartheid without police interference, the first unsegregated suburbs have been opened and jailed black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela has met de Klerk in his 300-year-old Tuynhuys office.

De Klerk has visited the Ivory Coast and Mozambique in his first hundred days, which he marked Thursday. He was talked to anti-apartheid leaders including Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu and reformed churches leader Allan Boesak.

Fewer than two dozen of the 30,000 people detained without charge since 1986 remain in prison and speculation is rife that Mandela, the 71-year-old African-National Congress (ANC) chief, could be home within weeks.

But blacks in the squalid shack settlement of Crossroads, near Cape Town, still accuse police of backing right-wing gang lords in a deadly battle for political control of their slum.

Soldiers still patrol the black

search and arrest. And life in the ravaged townships of Natal province, where more than 2,000 people

have died fighting over tactics to confront apartheid, is a grim reminder of the poverty and hardship that face most of South Africa's 26 million voteless

Diplomats and political analysts said this week that de Klerk had changed the mood of parliamentry politics since he was elected president on September 14, injecting a sense of optimism after years of virtual stalemate. But he was still to deliver on his

promise to begin talking to popular black leaders on giving blacks, who outnumber whites by five to one, a share in the running of the "He has been more effective in.

climate building... and he has taken tougher decisions than I had expected of him," said white parliamentarian and former opposition leader Colin Eglin, He said de Klerk had created conditions for a political break-

through, but warned that the

53-year-old former lawyer would

have to act quickly in the 1990s to

maintain the momentum. "He is going to have to map out a course that is much better defined than the outline we have serious negotiations is going to have to be made in the first three months of the year," he said in an interview. Leaders of the main black

opposition groups are generally

smissive of de Klerk's opening

moves, but some admit privately that he has surprised them. "Obviously, we are having to react to the momentum this man is generating. He is getting a lot of sympathy from Western governments and we have to make

sure they keep a proper perspec-

tive," said one Mass Democratic

Movement (MDM) organiser. "De Klerk has not done anything to surprise or impress us. All his promises are being played out against a background of continuing repression," United Democratic Front activist Cheryl

Carolus told Reuters. She said his decision to reverse 40-year tradition and throw all the country's beaches open to all races was forced on him by activists in a nationwide campaign of apartheid deffiance.

She said blacks would begin to pay attention if de Klerk freed Mandela, ended the 30-year exile of his outlawed ANC and lifted a three-year-old state of

emergency. "Then we might be interested to hear what else he has to say,'

Molefe, freed last week from Robben Island prison, said de Klerk was clearly more sensitive and sophisticated than his prede-

cessor, P.W. Botha. He said blacks would respond with flexibility, but he added: 'We will not be flexible about our birthright, which is full participation in governing our country.

The UDF and the MDM claim an overlapping membership of over 2.5 million people who oppose apartheid and support the aims, if not the guerrilla methods, of the ANC. De Klerk gets generally high marks from Western diplomats.

though some European representatives are slightly cooler than British and American diplomats. "We have been pleasantly surprised by the pace he has set, but of course the changes he has annouced so far are not nearly

enough," one European diplomat

told Reuters.

"He seems to have the courage to do what must be done. The question now is whether he can move fast enough," he said. A senior National Party (NP) source said de Klerk was a relief after a decade of Botha's increasingly autocratic style and his dangerous reliance on police and the army to enforce unpopular

series of unusually public battles between January, when Botha suffered a mild stroke, and Angust 15, when he announced his resignation in a bitter television address to the nation. De Klerk took over immediate-

ly as caretaker president, but began to make changes only after an electoral college of white parliamentarians confirmed his appointment in September. Diplomats and NP sources said de Klerk's most important move

so far was to dismantle the security structure that gave police and the army a key role. "All the right-leaning people

who might have objected to de Klerk have left the party," one NP source said. "Everybody else is aware that drastic action has to be taken to secure the white man's future in South Africa." He said de Klerk outlined his. ideas for far-reaching political and economic reform at a series of informal cabinet camp-outs in

the northern Bushveld "He is a very persuasive man, but there is a steely understone to Mr. de Klerk that people don't see in public.

"He is very popular and he listens well, but you are risking your political life if you go to one your political life if you go to one of his cabinet meetings without doing your homework," the NP doing your homework," the NP source said.

government policies. ا حكرا من المعل

/jetnam: Looking for peace

By Helene Bourdon

and are excerpts from an exclusive interyew with Vietnam's ambassador to the United Minimums. Mr. Trinh Xuan Lang, a noted foreign

colonish effects, Mr. 1111111.

colonish effects expert.

sation of Mastron: As we approach the one soly contary, what role to do see this soly contary, what role to do see this soly contary, what are Victour's color cooking what are Victour's color cooking effect? What are Victour's by the de region? What are Victories of foreign people, here

wer. "We are a developing of the centry, not a big power. The Polani be of Vietnam — about 30,000 creates was kilometres, with a populaability bard about 64 million — is not the bard bard about 64 million — is not too small. We tell bald fire to contribute first to

in to friendship and cooperaania the ha in the area. As far as foreign ania, but his in the area. As an as a socialist on in 1% manry, a non-aligned country it accept he we are in Southeast Asia, so ivine the led we are in Southeast Asia, so lying the its must maintain good relations is a virtual ath socialist countries and neighming countries, especially the Nikita S Dviet Union, Laos and Cambois who sust. Secondly we must cooperate Eastern bith all non-aligned nations — we leevel a two been active members since

intinued hazblish good relations with all inal metions in the region — the Assoation of Southeast Asian Nahe Sovies one (ASEAN), and China — areas Par scause you have to live in good slovakis with your neighbours, exhieve here is no other way. Finally we to for cooperation with all counsands of sies of the world, irrespective of illed in the ifferent social systems, on the 0-Ceanson asis of respect for each other's

But wise 1970s. And thirdly we wish to

O Roma dependence."
they well. Militarily, how do you see the trily to galance of power in the region? So of the year think there will be reducfrom the issue in armed forces and weapons inflar to those in Europe?

In fact no. In Europe during he past 45 years there has been in unprecedented situation of peaceful coexistence between the xeptable two groups of countries (East and id Tellot West). In our area too we would the duske such a peaceful coexis-s toward ence. It's still very early to talk ring U.S. of disaming, you still have to Nixon's defend your country, but at least policy if the Cambodian problem is

solved there will be ground for feel a masting peace and stability. Yes emy, Marwe have some experience in fight-It be "ling, but at the same time we are becam tweak in areas like economics, so we need peace. We are prepared lock seto fom ASEAN."

ple packQ. What do you think will be the env. "kreistionship between Vietnam and economithe two giants in the region s for China and India?

o configsA. "Our relations with India have steful," don't feel threatened at all. Ever he wastrince its independence India has a "not followed a persistent policy of cold we independence and we understand the role of India in the area. As ary and for China, we are neighbours and

h they a we have to live with each other. Schemen Our interests in the long run are ir world' common, and strategically they also not are the same. During the past 10 world at years differences have been ob-West of vious, but we still believe that they are temporary and we wish

eople of the normalise relations."

eople of the normalise relations."

Q. Considering the fighting now taking place in Cambodia, will Cambodia's Prime Minister Hun See have enough time to install a strong democratic government of national reconciliation? Are there my signs that the U.N. will recon-Zone ader giving Cambodia's seat to the resistance coalition?

A. "The Cambodians are quite able to defend themselves against sed the the genocidal (Khmer Rouge) ed on ed m regime of Pol Pot (the most active of the three resistance groups). In XIII. the past 10 years they have made tremendous efforts to build up their strength. The rebel forces

Khomeini's call for Muslims to hill Rundie and thinks the author therid he hounded until The fluingle: Verses" is withdrawn from bookshelves.

Both men are noted Muslim

figures in Britain, and both re-

gard Rushdie's book as deeply

offenive to their faith. But their

divisions among Muslims on how to cope with "The Satanic Verses" and Khomesni's death

Rushine, a Bombay-born Mus-im, has been in hiding under police guard since Feb. 14. Khomeini died June 3, but his

Muslims say "The Satanic reses," published 14 months ago, insults Islam and its Prophet,

wives as prostitutes and suggest-

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Siddigui, director of the Mus-

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and especially the Khmer Rouge have taken advantage of the with-drawal of the Vietnamese troops, which proves that the Vietname troops are indeed gone.-It also proves that the danger of the return (to power) of Pol Pot's men is real and imminent. The world community has the responsibility to prevent it.

"Some people say that you have to accept the Khmer Rouge, but if you include them in whatever form of interim administration, lare you sure that they will be satisfied with that arrangement? I don't believe it. We know that the Khmer Rouge - we may say the primitive as they call themseives communists - will not stop there. People say they have changed, Pol Pot is not there anymore, and they have become realistic. They themselves have made explicit statements that they will not do as before (when they killed close to 2 million people while they raled Cambodia from 1975 through 1978). But has anybody been able to control what the Khmer Rouge are doing in the refugee camps they control in the border area in Thailand? Nobody. There are reports that in those camps they are ruling exactly the same way they ruled Cambodia before. The Cambodians are not prepared to undergo the test to live with the Khmer Rouge

Regarding U.N. recognition for the Hun Sen government, it won't happen in this session." Q. Is the U.S. ready to normalise

relations with Vietnam? A. "There is no sign, yet. Opinions are still divided."

Q. Victnem has a large population established overseas and which has done quite well. Do you see these people playing a role in helping to rebuild Vistamu's eco-nomy and in building bridges with the countries where they settled? "Yes, there are now around the world about 2 million overseas Vietnamese - in the U.S. about 800,000. Now there is an open policy from our government to all the Victnamese communi-ties abroad and we believe that a lot of them understand it. Many have returned to Vietnam for visits and at the same time they looked for opportunities to take part in the construction of the country. We welcome it. The majority remain Vietnamese in spirit. They also play a role in linking Vietnam and other countries, but of course their capabilities are limited. The point is we wish them to be and to remain Vietnamese and to maintain the Vietnamese culture wherever

they are." Q. Is it correct to think of Victoria at one of the last economic fromtiers in Asia?

A. "For us the (American) war now belongs to history. We speak so little of it - much less than the American people. We have so many concerns, so many worries, especially how to build the country, how to make it stronger and prosperous. We know that we have been left behind, even compared to our neighbours like Singapore and Thailand, for example. We badly need cooperation with all foreign countries and we badly need foreign investment. I don't deny or hide the fact that we made quite a lot of mistakes during the past in dealing with foreign cooperation for example, but we have become

splitoververses

bring Rushdie to book." Al-Essawy, chairman of the Islamic society for the promotion

Koran's teachings.
"As a Muslim, I should really

him to God to punish or forgive him as he wishes," Al-Essay said in an interview.

declined to guarantee his safety and its semi-official newspaper, Kehan, warned he would be

The death sentence is really a slur, is something that defames the religion of Islam," Al-Essawy

"As long as the man stays in siding, we'll stand accused of putting him there and keeping him there. We'll be regarded as potential killers."

aware of these mistakes. Of course mistakes cannot be corrected overnight, but we sincerely aspire to fruitful cooperation with all countries of the world."

Q. Thailand's prime minister is fond of saying that Indochina should become a sort of common market instead of a war zone. Do you see this happening in the near

A. "That is a clearsighted strategy. Thailand's prime minister has indeed stated on many occasion that his policy is to turn Indochina from a battlefield into a market place, that's good. We support the idea Q. Would economic cooperation

the prosperous drug trade rooted in the region called the golden triangle?
A. "Drugs are a tragedy for all people. Drug trafficking is now an international problem and phenomenon, and there must be common effort worldwide to fight it. If there is an economic

cooperation in Southeast Asia,

for example, and if the economic

conditions of all Southeast Asian

countries improved, of course we

could reduce that danger and that

in Indochina have any effect on

Q. Is there a will to build at all costs a sort of common market in Southeast Asia?

A. "They have tried to do it before, but there are so many conflicting interests! After the problem in Cambodia is solved, I don't know if we can succeed or

Q. Regarding the problem of Vietnamese refugees for whom it is increasingly difficult to find a host country, do you see a possibility that economic refugees would be routinely sent back to Vietnam? tion would be similar to the repatriation of illegal Mexican workers by the United States, for

A. "It is still too early to say

because first we have to solve the problem of refugees - that is to say resolve the matter of 'orderly departure and implement that programme so that we can curb the flow of illegal immigrants. We have to resolve the problem of the refugees now in Hong Kong and other countries, and basically. we have to solve Vietnam's economic problem. If the situation improves in Vietnam, it would be easier to find solutions. In any case we are for voluntary repatriation and we would welcome them back. Several hundreds have returned, but thousands and thousands believe that Hong Kong is a paradise, or the West is a paradise. The best way is to help us improve our economy, but with the embargo policy of Western countries we are at an

حكزا من لاجل

Q. Vietnam has a special relationship with the Soviet Union. How is it affected by Mr. Gorbachev's policies of restructura-tion and budget cutting?

A. 'There is no effect, or if there is it's a positive one. Why? During the past three or four decades the Soviet Union has remained our friend, and so we must maintain good relations with them. But those relations must be based on strict respect for independence and sovereignty. Before Mr. Gorbachev it was a one-sided coopcration in the sense that we asked the Soviet Union for whatever we needed. It is not fair and it would not last. With Vietnam's policy of renovation, we believe that cooperation must be on the basis of mutual interest. That will encourage our economy to develop. Wecannot accept this policy of dependency on another country anymore.

Q. How do you evaluate Mr. Gorhacher's chances of success in the implementation of his perestreiks policy?



dent sovereign policy, events from other countries will affect us immediately. But (in this case) we don't care because perestroika is the problem of the Soviet Union, it's not the problem of Vietnam. We support them but it's their problem, just like renovais our problem and we are the ones to implement it. I think the Soviet people believe in perestroika, but such a hig coun-

try cannot change as quickly as a small nation. In Vietnam, since we launched the policy of renovation, especially in economic matters, things have changed quite explicitly, there has been measurable progress. Elephants move slower than a deer or a duck!" Q. Looking back at Vietnam's history, what are the important factors that can help envision what the future will be for the

A. "We Vietnamese have a history of 4000 years - not 200 years like the United States! And for 1000 years we have been subject to foreign domination under China — and we have fought many aggressions and invasions. Yet we have succeded in maintaining our own identity, our language. The Vietnamese people have a tradition of preserving

their culture and civilisation and they are a united people, they are dynamic and at the same time very creative. We think these are the strong points of the Vietnamese, and we believe that because of this we can build a prosperous Vietnam in the future. We have sufficient resources, so I believe we are quite able to carch up, at first with our neighbours." World News Link

of truth Polygraphs face moment

By Jonathan Yenkin The Associated Press

BOSTON - A prosecutor calls it witchcraft" and a psychologist says it's as reliable as a coin toss. After years of debate, court rolings and federal legislation, use of the polygraph has dropped sharply, despite supporters who insist the test is a good indicator of whether someone is telling a

"They have been useless and give misleading information," said Leonard Saxe, a visiting professor of psychology at Brandeis University and a leading opponent of polygraph testing. "They suggest whether you're guilty or innocent. You might as well flip a

Last week, the state supreme

court banned lie detector tests from being introduced as evidence in criminal trials. Massachusetts had been one of the last remaining states that gave defendants the right to use polygraphs to support their alibis.

The court, noting polygraph studies have shown success rates varying from 95 per cent to just above 50 per cent, said: "there remains no consensus among experts as to the accuracy of polygraph testing to detect deceit."

The court was not alone in deciding against polygraphs, which attempt to determine someone's honesty by their physiological response to certain questions. Last year, congress prohibited

most private sector employers

from using lie detectors to screen job applicants or randomly test workers.

Exempted from the rules were federal, state and local governments, firms that do sensitive work for agencies like the CIA and FBI, companies that provide security services and those that make or distribute controlled. substances.

"I think it's appropriate to seek if someone is lying, and the most appropriate way is to seek evidence," say Judy Crockett, who fought on behalf of the federal law for the American Civil Liberties Union. "Polygraphs tend to be an attempt to short-cut investigations.

The federal law, which took effect a year ago, has taken a big

hite out of the polygraph husi-

"There's been a definite decline in the private sector," said Chris Fausett, product manager for Lafavette Instrument Co.. based in Lafayette, Indiana, one of the country's largest makers of polygraph machines. He declined to give specific

numbers, but he said the drop was "about as sharp as you can

"No doubt businesses have had . to ahandon 75-80 per cent of polygraph tests," said Joseph Buckley, a spokesman for the American Polygraph Association, a trade group based in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Buckley said his group had about 3,000 members a year ago.

STUDIO HAIG

but the number has dropped by a third. "A lot of them had to change careers," he said. However, these trends do not

mean polygraph testing is dead,

Law enforcement ageocies use lie detectors to interview witnesses when investigating crimes. The department of defense uses polygraph testing to serach

for spies, and also to screen job applicants if something suspicious arises in background checks, said spokesman Jim Turner. Reading from a defense de-

partment statement regarding the use of polygraphs. Turner said:

"In all instances the polygraph exam process produced data of important security or criminal significance which was not otherwise obtainable. It was also invaluable replaces the jury."

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in establishing the innocence of people confronted with serious accusations."

Many states allow polygraph

evidence to be introduced if both the prosecution and defense New Mexico is the one state

where either party can introduce a polygraph examination as evidence, with the trial judge deciding whether the tests meet certain standards. But not everyone in the state supports it.

Timothy Cornish, a poseculor in the New Mexico attorner general's office, called polygraph exams "witchcraft."

"It can, if used in an unbridled way, change the entire truth-seeking process." he said. "It

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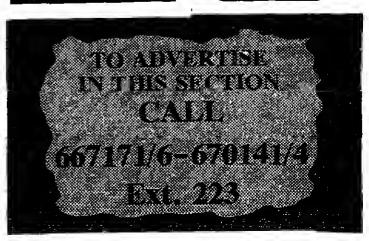
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lim institute, says Khomeini's By Ben Dobbin "Fatwa" is unchallengeable, and The Associated Press that Rushdie got "nothing less than he thoroughly deserved." But while favouring the death decree "absolutely," he says it is "not for Muslims living in this country to break British law to DESTAURANT CHU LONDON - Hesham A!-Essawy wanted to visit Iran and win a reprieve for author Salman The first & best Rushdie. But a Tehran newspap-Chinese Restaurant er said "the hanging rope" awaer said "the hanging rope" awaited him, so he stayed in England. Kalim Siddiqui supports the late Ayarollah Ruhollah

of religious tolerance, contends that the death call contradicts the

suppress the human response and adopt the religious response, which is 'don't punish him, leave

Al-Essawy planned a lecture tour of Iran, Egypt and the Gulf states in February-to dispute the edict, but cancelled it when Iran



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Moneychangers urge Parliament to reexamine Feb. 8 closure order

By Ghadeer Taber Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Buoyed by the "democratic atmosphere" in the country, deposed moneychangers are demanding a "just and speedy" solntion to address their situation after all private moneychanging estab-lishments were ordered closed in February under martial law provisions.

In a memorandum submitted to the Lower House of Parliament Tuesday, moneychangers are calling on Parliament to review the closure and legality of the Feb. 8 order issued by the then government of Printe Minister Zeid Rifai, The order! also froze the assets of most moneychangers pending investigations and auditing.

The memo, signed by a committee of seven representing all moneychangers in Jordan, also rejects preconditions set by the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) in a recent plan for the reopen-ing of non-bank moneychangers. The plan stipulates that the number of exchange houses be reduced to 10 large com-panies from the 68 which operated in Jordan prior to the Feb. 8 order, which said the closure was prompted by "violations of regulations and tampering with the national economy," by moneychangers in the country.

CBJ Governor Mohammad Saeed Nabulsi said in a recent interview with the monthly

magazine Banks in Jordan that over half the companies have

already been liquidated.. Ghazi Al Saidi, who operated one of the largest exchange houses in the country, said the CBJ had placed moneychangers into three cate-gories — those with external dealings, those located in major cities in the Kingdom and those with limited capital.
According to Saudi, the CBJ

asked companies in the second and third categories to liquidate themselves about four months ago. "This is against the law and results in huge losses to the owner," he told the Jodan Times in a telephone interview Tuesday.

The memo submitted to Parliament cited the loss to the moneychangers induced by the closure and the effects of freezing their assets. The closure has resulted in "huge losses for the moneychangers in terms of dayto-day business and because they had credit facilities and loans with commercial banks on which they pay interest and commission," the memo said. "They cannot repay credits and loans because their money is

frozen," the memo added. Other losses, according to the memo, include the operating licences and rent for the premises. Jordanian laws do not permit companies to change their nature of business without giving the landlord the right to negotiate a new contract. So most moneychangers who have

liquidated and want to keep the office space and use it for alternative business have to pay higher rent and new deposits. 'Until now no decision on protecting the moneychangers in the rent aspect has been taken," said the memo, which was presented to the Parlia-

ment Secretariat.

Charges levelled against the moneychangers at the time of the closure included dealings outside the realm of exchange of currency. Well-placed sources told the Jordan Times that some moneychangers had extended eredit facilities against purchases of foreign currency. The sources said that some companies accepted che-ques in dinars against purchases in foreign currency but some of these cheques bounced, "Some companies may appear sound on paper but they are bankrupt in reality," a source said. Since moneychangers were not allowed to give credit facilities or accept or cash cheques, those who ended up the dishonoured cheques were left with no legal recourse without incrimi-

nating themselves.
"The country had 68 moneychanging houses, which were taxed, and controlled by the government, but after the closure you had countless numbers acting as moneychangers,' Minister of Tourism Abdul Karim Kabiriti told the Jordan Times. "If some of the moneychangers acted in violation of the laws, you do not close all of them," added the member of Parliament and former moneychanger.

Position on proposed law

The memo states the moneychangers' position on the proposed law prepared by the CBJ and forwarded to the government for reopening exchange houses. The memo supports the proposed toughening of punishments for violators of foreign currency laws, including imprisonment and confiscation of assets or both.

However, the moneychangers do not accept the terms set by the CBJ, which include a mandatory JD 1 million capital of which JD 500,000 will be deposited with the CBJ. "These conditions would mean, that many moneychangers would go out of business because of the huge capital required by the CBJ," the memo said. The moneychangers argue that the required deposit with the CBJ will result in lack of liquidity, not to mention the costs of rent, deposit, equipment and decor of the new offices.

The memo argues that the deposit with the CBJ is unfair since the same is not required of commercial banks. The moneychangers use their own money for transactions whereas the banks use other people's money and they are not required to make such a deposit, it points out. Moneychangers



Anthorities close down currency exchange house in downtown Amman Feb. 8 (File photo)

Israel cabinet okays

cut in 'defence'

inflation and government spending.

billion) mark," he said.

move that I favour."

children to upper income families.

\$27.5b budget, but no

TEL AVIV (AP) - Israel's cabinet has approved a 55 billion

shekels (\$27.5 billion) budget for 1990-91 but rejected calls for a cut in defence spending, which will remain at the current level of 10.5 billion shekels (\$5.25 billion).

The budget, which represents little change from the 1989-90 total of 52 billion shekels (\$28 billion at the earlier exchange rate), must still be approved by the Israeli Knesset, or parliament. It will take

The cabinet approved the budget by a hefty 19-4-2 margin on Monday, and Finance Ministry officials suggested there were enough votes to see the budget through parliament without major

Finance Minister Shimon Peres said in an Israel Radio interview broadcast Tuesday that the budget was designed to keep down

we have to face in this budget, the intifada and inflation, and yet

are able to keep the deficit below the 2.5 billion shekel (\$1.25

for a slight cut in defence spending from the ministry's initial

proposal of 10.43 billion shekels (\$5.22 billion).

An aide who demanded anonymity said the budget had called

Israel television reported Monday night that Foreign Minister

Moshe Arens urged that the deficit be controlled by a cut in

defence spending.

A similar call had been made by Michael Burno, governor of the

Bank of Israel. He based his recommendation on a recent study

indicating that Arab states, including Syria, were cutting defence

But the TV quoted Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin as respond-

ing to Arens that in order to make cuts, he would have to withdraw

Israeli troops from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, "a

The budget includes revenue-adding steps such as increasing the

value added tax by one percentage point to 16 per cent, increasing fuel prices by 10 per cent and cigarette prices by 23 per cent.

The government also will save 150 million shekels (\$75 million) by cutting monthly child allowances of 63 shekels (\$32) for second

But the government agreed to add 150,000 hours of education by adopting a longer school day. It also agreed to a 225 million shekel (\$113 million) supplement to the defence budget to control the two-year-old Palestinian uprising.

Tax reforms that were likely to lower the income tax rates were

"It's very streamous considering the extra challenges and burdens

also argue that the proposed instructions do not give priority to former moneychangers in licensing or capital. The new regulations also do not allow for an adequate period of time for moneychangers to adjust and restructure or merge their companies. The memo cites the example of insurance companies, which were given one year to restructure their com-

Saudi argues that the moneychangers had little to do with the drop in the value of the Jordanian dinar which was the reason for their closure. The

effect April 1.

devaluation came as a result of "lack of confidence in the government at the time and the effect of the disengagement between the two banks," Sandi said. "They gave moneychangers too much credit," he

Nabulsi apparently agrees with this assessment of their role in statements made Oct. 30, 1989. "The role of the moneychangers was exaggerated in the crisis," Nabulsi said. He also said that moneychangers in a country usually yield "posi-tive effects."

Alternatives made to meet local meat needs

Ibrahim has said that the ministry had offered a tender for the supply of 5,000 tonnes of fresh lamb meat from Romania and another one for the supply of fresh beef meat from Bulgaria to two Jordanian contractors. However, he noted, due to the recent events in Romania and the domestic demand for beef in Bul-

garia, the quantities in question were not imported. Ibrahim was commenting on the shortage of fresh imported meat in the local market. He said that the ministry had made the necessary contacts with the concerned Bulgarian parties and found that limited quantities of meat could be supplied at this particular time of the year. He said a plane carrying 14 tonnes of beef was expected Sunday and another one carrying the same quantity was expected Thursday. Ibrahim pointed out that due

to the shortage of meat in the local market and because of the upheavals in Romania, the ministry had arranged for providing

AMMAN (Petra) — Ministry of large quantities of frozen land meat from the ministry's cold stores. However, he noted, all centres for selling frozen lamb meat had been instructed to provide it for all citizens in suitable packs.

He said that the centres would sell fresh local meat during the holidays season.

Jordan has almost three willion heads of sheep and goats and that this quantity is enough to cover a significant part of the local mar

ket needs, he said.... Ibrhaim said that importation of fresh meat should be reconsidered because the exporting countries may stop partly or totally the supply outside of fresh meat. There is also the chance that prices of meat will be raised.

· Ibrahim called for alternative sources in the next stage and stressed the need for long-term planning to ensure that local needs for fresh meat are met through the establishment of farms for rearing and fattening

E. Europe, Third World debt seen rising

By Carl Hartman The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Debts of East European and Third World countries are due to rise next year despite the plan of Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady to some of the heaviest burdens on debtor countries.

"When you have a vibrant, growing economy — like Indonesia, for example — debt can be a good thing if it doesn't grow too fast," said John M. Underwood of the World

· Indonesia's debt rose from \$43 billion in 1986 to \$52 billion last year, according to figures the bank issued this week. Indonesia had to pay out nearly \$8.5 billion in principal and interest to its creditors in 1988. Third World leaders complain that such outflows leave them. little to build the schools and buy the equipment to create jobs for their gorwing popula-tions. The bank calculated the total outflow at more than \$51

billion this year. .Until 1983, new loans to developing countries brought them more money than they had to pay out ou the old ones.

Despite the cost, Third World governments still seek more loans, if only to help pay the interest on the old loans.

Underwood is top economist in the International Economics Department of the World Bank, the largest source of aid to Third World countries. The aid is also in the form of loans, over \$21 billion in the year that

ended June 30. The bank plans to provide as much as \$1.35 billion to Poland. which got nothing last year but already owes more than \$42 billion. Its new non-Communist leadership is hoping to borrow an additional \$4 billion or more m the coming year.

. Brady's strategy seeks to ease the burden for 39 debtor countries, by combining debt and interest reduction with new loans from banks. So far, plans have been developed for three

countries: Mexico, the Philippines and Costa Rica.
The World Bank estimated that his strategy could save as much as \$6 billion a year for 19

'severely indebted middle in come countries" like Argentina and the Philippines, which ewe much of their debt to private He made his proposal last

March, before the big changes in Eastern European countries which now have better prospects for getting the new loans they want. For the poorest countries.

governments are the main creditors rather than banks. During the 1980s, 10 creditor gov-ernments have forgiven \$25 billion owed to them. The United States, which was not among the 10, has promised to forgive another billion. New and to these countries, most of them in Africa, is now largely in the form of grants.

U.S. interest

Two officials of Resources for the Future, a private study group in Washington, said that the United States has an interest in easing the debt bur den: the heaviest debtors are among the biggest buyers of U.S. goods. The less they have to pay out to banks, the more they have left over to buy the products of U.S. farms and

industries, they pointed out." "The net result of easing debt burdens would be more robust economies that would support more stable political systems and create stronger markets for U.S. exports," wrote Elaine. Koerner and George Rossmiller in the fall issue of "Resource" for the Future," the organisa-

tion's quarterly publication.
The World Bank predicted that the debt of 111 countries will rise to \$1.189 trillion in 1990 from \$1.165 trillion this

Kuwait to increase **China investments**

KUWAIT (AP) — Chinese President Yang Shangkun Tuesday ended two days of talks with Kuwait's emir. Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Sabah, with the Gulf state pledging investment in China, officials reported.

Yang left for Oman, the last leg of a Gulf tour which started Dec. 26 in the United Arab Emirates. He is seeking to cement Chi-

na's foothold in the region and boost economic aid from the Arab states to off set a Western boycott following Beijing's spring crackdown on China's democratic movement.

relations with China in 1971, the

first Gulf state to do so. It also boasts extensive overseas investments, with some already diverted into projects in China, the world's largest Communist nation.

The officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said that Sheikh Jaber and Yang agreed to expand economic cooperation.

The Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development, the govcrument's lending agency, agreed to finance six more development projects in China, including a \$25 million airport, the officials reported.

The fund is financing 12 projects, worth more than \$300 million, in China. Kuwaiti and Chinese officials signed two protocols, one for economic and technical cooperation and the other for averting donble taxation, to upgrade the legal and technical framework of their cooperation.

The accords were signed by Kuwaiti Finance Minister Jassem Al Khorafi and his Chinese counterpart, Wang Bingqian, at the end of a meeting of the Chinese-Kuwaiti Commission on Econo-

mic and Technical Cooperation. The appointment of Kuwait's oil minister, Sheikh Ali Khalifa Al Sabah, as the head of the team assigned to escort the Chinese leader indicated the growing cooperation between the two countries in the oil and gas sectors, diplomats noted.

The state-owned Kuwait Petroleum Corporation, headed by Sheikh Ali, is currently carrying out exploration work in China.

On the political front, the minister for court affairs, Sheikh Khaled Al Ahmad Al Sabah, said that talks between Sheikh Jaber and Shangkun covered interna-

tional developments. He said the emphasis was on efforts to break the deadlock in peace negotiations between Iran and Iraq and settle the Palestine and Lebanese problems.

"An atmosphere of under-standing and friendship prevailed during the talks," he said.

OECD urges Japan to take lead in removing barriers

TOKYO (R) — Japan should in an annual report on Japan's take the lead in rolling back economy. barriers to imports to help avoid a protectionist backlash by other countries and a repeat of the global stock market crash of October 1987, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) said Wednesday.

The 24-nation group urged Tokyo to attack Japanese business practices that restrict competition and dismantle obstacles

to agricultural imports. "Japan's place in the world economy today and its dependence on the continuation of a liberal world tracing system mean that it should be one of the countries taking the lead when it comes to rolling back barriers, the OECD said.

The Paris-based group warned that Japan's persistently big trade surplus risks provoking a protec-tionist backlash in some countries and could end up disrupting world financial markets.

"Given the volatility of financial markets, a further gradual reduction in international (trade) imbalances may be necessary to avoid the repetition of the financial market disruption experi-enced in 1987," the OECD said

Although Japan's enrrent account surplus looks set to fall sharply this year, a weak yen could prevent further reductions,

The yen has fallen nearly 15 per cent against the dollar since the end of 1988, boosting the competitiveness of Japan's ex-

ports and the price of its imports.

"A gradual appreciation of the effective exchange rate would be consistent with the objective of keeping inflation down and continuation of external (trade)

adjustment," the OECD said. ine organisation came squarely against managed trade. saying that fixing targets for higher Japanese imports and a lower

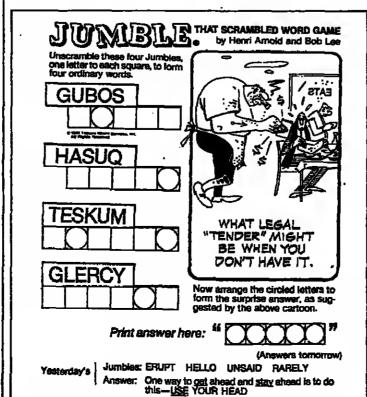
surplns was dangerous. "It contains the seeds of destruction of the liberal world trading system and should therefore be strongly resisted," the think-

tank said. The group urged Japan to im-prove the standard of living of its citizens to reflect the country's position as, one of the world's

richest nations. "(Japan's) high income level appears not to be fully reflected in the quality of life," the OECD



"Oh, boy, a new laundry product. I hope I don't break out in a rash from all the excitement."





GCC seeks to boost role of private sector on imports of GCC petroche-

NICOSIA (R) — Industry ministers of Arab Gulf states began talks in Oman Tuesday on ways to boost the role of the private sector in their state-dominated

"It is difficult to keep industry Gulf Cooperation Conneil (GCC) states under the governments' tent," GCC Secretary-General Abdullah Bishara was quoted by the Omani News

Agency as saying.

The meeting of ministers from the GCC states — Sandi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman - follows a GCC summit also in Muscat last week, which urged faster implementation of a 1981 accord on economie integration.

The agency, received in Cyprus, quoted Bishara as saying the ministers would agree a plan for 1990 based on gradual implementation of the accord.

GCC officials say lack of a unified customs agreement among member states makes it. hard to agree trade pacts withother economie blocs, notably the Enropean Community (EC) which imposes quotas and tariffs

Over 300 GCC industrialists were in Muscat for their third annual conference on the sidelines of the ministers' meeting.

Abdul Rahman Al Jaafari, secretary-general of the Gulf Organisation for Industrial Consultancy, said the industrialists would discuss prospects for privatisation of government concerns and the role of governments in

promoting the private sector.

Eforts by GCC states to end their heavy reliance on oil and gas by industrialising have been hit by lower oil revenues, leaving less cash for industrial projects, businessmen say. They also point to a lack of coordination between member states.

The GCC produces nearly 10 million barrels of oil a day and. owns over 40 per cent of the world's proven reserves.

Member states have spent tens of billions of dollars on developing downstream operations, especially petrochemicals and refining facilities. Most projects were developed by states acting alone.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Tuesday, December 26, 1989 Central Bank official rates

French franc 650.0 383.0

nee Victory Team aims for glory

the of h. DUBAI (J.T.) — The third wever had sound of the regional powerboat parang season roars back to life in Dahai on Dec. 29 with the Mid-East's biggest powerboat least ready for an all-out assault that

The nine-boar victory ready years local was entered an impressive array years high-powered vessels for the last almost be locking to repeat the leep and will be looking to repeat the The nine-boat Victory Team by is crossed and will be looking to repeat the by is crossed and that clinched wins for Vic-pan of the large Team boats in races earlier he said the brins season in Dubai and Jordan. Starting from Mina Seyaha at should be Barbour and organization is ause the Dubai Marine Club, the race is ause the Dubai Marine Club, the race is ay stop per sepected to feature more than 60 ply one boats from all around the Gulf and will be one of the biggest and of meal will be similar in length to this year's Emirates Duhai



Offshore Powerboat Race which was dominated by Victory Team

The full entry list and length of the race will be determined after entries close on Dec. 26,"

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NORTH A A 6 2 V K Q 5 · 0- 10 8 ♣ A Q 10 5 3 EAST # 3843 0 A Q 2 SOUTH 4 K Q 10 The bidding:

North West 3 🛊 Pass Page Pass Opening lead: Six of & Most of the plays available to de-clarer can be made by the defense as well. As a corollary, the counter-

thrusts that declarer has at his command also can be employed by the defense. The auction was straight from the old textbook. Since North didn't have diamonds stopped, he made a forcing jump raise in clubs, and South, with a dead minimum and

toppers in the unbid suits, settled for the obvious no trump game. .West led the six of diamonds, taken by East's ace, Declarer held up the king of diamonds until the third round of the suit, then took the club

ACROSS

15 Locale 16 Cognizant 17 Smell group 18 Clock sound

25 Grips
26 Close by
31 Recipe abbr.
34 Eagle retreat
36 Come upon
36 Ditto

44 Clock face

45 Com on the — 47 One: Fr.

63 While los

said a Dubai Marine Club

Again there are two classes of boats, with standard versions in Group B, and Group A featuring 90 mph vessels like the 32-foot catamarans favoured by many leading competitors.

American powerboat expert, Randy Scism. is the manager behind the Victory Team."We have already taken first places in both classes in Dubai and Jordan, so I see no reason why we shouldn't do as well again,"

East German agency to market a\hletes, coaches

EAST BERLIN (AP) - East Germany created an agency Thursday to handle player and team exchanges with Western nations, and a leading sports official said he hopes Americans soon

will be competing in his country.

The agency will negotiate with Western clubs for the purchase of the services of East German soccer players, cyclists and other athletes, as well as promoting visits hy foreign sportsmeo to East Germany.

"We must try to bring in money, because we have some - like you have in the United States — that can't make money." said Werner Neumann, a member of the secretariat of the East German Sports Federation, known by its initials, DTSB.

Neumann said in an interview at DTSB headquarters that East German athletes will be marketed and sold to the West in exchange for badly needed Western currency.

"Katarina Witt was the forerunner, she did everything on her own," he said of the Olympic figure skating champion who now is a professional skater and aspir-

"Now a Katarina Witt would have to go through the sports agen-cy." Neumaoo said. "Why cy." Neumaoo said. "Why shouldn't we have an agency to keep something for the GDR

(East German) sports?" The new agency, called Sports Agentur, will be a branch of DTSB and will seek to take advantage of the recent opening to the West. Soccer player Andreas Thom became the first East German sports star to transfer to a Western club when he signed a deal last weekend to join West German team Bayer Lever-

Neumann said he hopes Western teams will compete in East Germany and envisions foreign athletes performing in his country's sports leagues.

He cited the recent visit of U.S. Secretary of State James A. Baker III to East Germany as a sign of growing ties between East and

Rush puts Liverpool top

LONDON (R) — Liverpool, making their customary holiday period charge, beat Sheffield Wednesday 2-1 and went to the top of the Eoglish soccer first division on Tuesday.

Welsh striker lan Rush netted the winner from a free kick by substitute Steve Staunton six minutes from time for his 12th goal of the season and 10th in the

Arsenal, who kicked off at Southampton two hours earlier, crashed to a 1-0 defeat, allowing Liverpool to go two points clear on 38 points. Danish international Jan Mol-

by put home team Liverpool

ahead after two minutes but Dalian Atkinson equalised five minutes after the hreak with his 10th goal of the season. Liverpool were sixth going into

the Christmas holiday period last season. They were narrowly beaten for the title by Arsenal in

But Liverpool were lucky to win on Tuesday as Sheffield

Wednesday, a much improved side despite still languishing near the bottom of the table, played well enough to deserve at least a share of the points.

Arsenal fell to a late goal by Rodoey Wallace. The striker pounced to net a headed pass hy Matthew Le Tissier from a Jimmy Case free kick in the 82nd minute, shocking the champions who had dominated the action for most of the second half.

Southampton stayed in sixth place with 30 points, one behind Arsenal's arch rivals from the capital, Tottenbam Hotspur. Spurs beat Millwall 3-1 at home with England striker Gary Lineker getting his 12th goal of the

Norwich are also on 31 points after losing at struggling Manchester City, an 86th-munute goal by former England striker Clive Allen lifting city off the bottom of the table in new manager Howard Kendall's first match in charge at Maine Road.

Manchester United's apparent

of a 0-0 draw with Liverpool on Saturday was short lived. They were crushed 3-0 at Astoo Villa, their fourth defeat in five

Villa held onto third place on 34 points as Ian Olney, David Platt and Kevin Gage scored in the space of 22 minutes in the second half.

United, without captain Bryan Robson, lost their composure after Olney's opening goal in the 56th minute and manager Alex Ferguson, his job on the line, had harsh words for his palyers.

"We never reached the standards we achieved against Liverpool although up until they scored we looked in no trouble. But we then conceded a bad goal and our heads dropped," Ferguson said.

He said United's failure to score was the main drain on his side's confidence. United have won just two points and scored only once io their last six

BY CHARLES GOREN

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Both vulnerable. South deals. finesse. That lost, but East did not have another diamood-and if he did, that would have meant the suit had split evenly and the defenders could score only three diamond tricks, plus a club trick in the bank. As a result, declarer collected 10 tricks. Was this a normal result? . TO 964 Anything but! Had East taken effective countermeasures, the contract would probably have gone down to defeat. With 15 points io sight in dommy, East should have worked out that,

THE Daily Crossword by Frank R. Jackson

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for. Therefore, West could not possibly have a fast entry. Since it woold appear that declarer could not come to nine tricks without taking at least some club tricks, East's strategy should have been designed to prevent declarer

including the 10 points in his hand,

some 38 points could be accounted

from holding up the king of Look what would happen had East played the queen of dramonds to the first trick! Declarer could not afford to refuse the trick since the

defenders might be able to collect five diamond tricks off the bat when there were 11 tricks to be had with a winning cluh finesse. Now, when East gets in with the king of clubs: acc of diamonds and another allows the defenders to collect four diamond tricks for a one-trick set.

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HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1989 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Your mind is logical and sharp today with the New Moon in Capricorn and you see all kinds of possibili-ties to achieve success and work out details with close associates.

AIRES: (March 21 to April 19) You need to discriminate carefully on which social invitations you now accept from friends. Try to establish a better rapport between your family and friends.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Consult with an expert friend in an entertainment or cultural activity. Accept invitations with your mate to outside functions.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Let a dynamic friend from a distance now become part of your social activities. Coordinate your plans today with the one you love the MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to

July 21) Matters at home are at a new peak of possible accomplishment. Do something special to show devotion to your attachment. LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Take interesting friends to delightful places of entertainment. Lots of interesting conditions can take place between you and your

VIGRO: (Angust 22 to September 22) Discussions with a successful friend can aid your present financial situation. Be more alert to gaining barmony at bome through new methods.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Get together with as many friends and companions now,

whether close or at a distance, Much excitement will exist between you and your attachment. SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Get all the information available about a new business venture. A day of much varied activity at your dwelling for you and your frieods.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Accept a special in invitation extended to you by an understanding woman. Put more art, colour, beauty and harmooy into your home.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Be dynamic in business, but don't act without considerable iovestigation. Realise your families need for more mooey for current expenditures.

AOUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Be open to receive socially friends of different viewpoints from yours. Invite only the friends who you like personally into your

PISCES: (February to March 20) Business and money matters will go more smoothly than usually. Do something very special that you know your attachment will enjoy. TODAY'S, CHILD: If your child were born today he or she will be a anything that is going on in her or his immediate circle. No detail is too small to avoid coming to their attention and they will gather all available fact prior to coming to

"The stars impel, they do not compel." What you make your life is largely up to you.

Modest van Basten strikes again

PARIS (R) — If they gave awards for sporting modesty, Marco van Basten would prob-

ahly win those too. After a year in which the elegant Dutch striker won just about everything soccer can offer. He walked off with the Ballon D'or as European footballer of the year for the second time in suc-

cession on Sunday. Last year at the age of 24, he was the youngest player ever to win the trophy. This time he became only the fifth to retain the title in the 34-year history of the prestigious France football award

Bnt, typically of a man whose deadly, predatorial instincts in front of goal contrast sharply with an unassuming demeanour off the pitch, van Basten's immediate thoughts were of others.

In particular of his Italian team captain at AC Milan Franco Baresi, who came second in the poll, and of his boyhood idol and mentor Johan Cruyff.

"I owe you a lot of thanks," he said to the French organisers as he received the award in Paris. "I owe a lot to AC Milan and its

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players too. I'm sorry for Franco that be didn't win because he deserved it hut I'm happy for

Sweeper Baresi was tipped by many to take the award after a year in which he stylishly led AC Milan to the European Cup, the Super Cup and the World Club

But in the end it was van Basten's breath-taking goal-scoring ability which captured the

His equalising goal in Madrid in the first leg of the European Cup semifinal with Real will long stay in the memory - an "im possible" diving header from outside the penalty area which went in off the bar. A pulverising shot in the 5-0

massacre of Real during the return in Milan and two more goals in the 4-0 thumping of Steaua Bucharest in the final were also eloquent testimony to van Bas-The Dutchman struck in the

final in precisely the way he does better than anyone else - with deft, first-time touches, the first a powerful glancing beader and the second a neatly angled left foot shot inside the far post. Van Basten has never disguised

his unfailing admiration for Cruyff, the star of the great Ajax Amsterdam and Dutch sides of the 1970s.

"He was always my idol," he

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Marco van Rasten

said. "It was such a pleasure to watch him when I was a kid. Later he became my trainer and a friend.

Van Basten was under Cruyff's wing at Ajax where he won the golden boot award as Europe's top scorer in 1986 with 36 goals, a year before moving on to Italy, Cruyff, not a man given to easy

praise, returned the compliment. He deserved the award," he said. "When he needs to score a goal, he always gets one. His goals are always excellent and important."

With next year's World Cup finals in Italy offering the perfect stage to demonstrate his peerless gifts, van Basten may well go on Ballon d'Or a third time, a feat matched only by Michel Platini of things to be won.

France In the Dutch national side and

AC Milan be bas teams tailored to his outrageous talent. Both are geared to attack and van Basten is more than willing to take the responsibility of putting the ball in the net. It helps a lot also to have fellow

Dutchmen Rund Gullit, the 1987 Ballon d'Or winner, and Frank Rijkaard, third in this year's vote for the second time in a row, playing alongside him in both

Modest van Basten may be hut beneath the calm, easy-going exterior lurks a burning ambition.

Last year after winning his first European Foothaller of the Year to emulate Cruyff by winning the award, he said: "This is just the start. There are a lot of other

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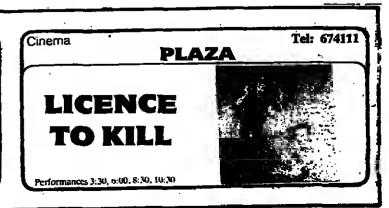
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COLUMN

Same birthday

card for 50 years

GRAND RAPIDS, Michigan (AP) — Milton Halverson has

sent the same birthday card to his

longtime pai Arleen Carlson for

50 years. And she sends it right

back. Mended over the years by

strips of transparent tape now

yellow and brittle, the card is the kind that could put a greeting

card company out of business.

Known as a "thrifty card," it features a piece of glazed paper on which the giver writes his or her name in pencil. The idea is a contained in pencil. The idea is

explained in a Scottish verse in-

side that ends, "ye can just wash

off my name, write m your own ye see. Then when my birthday

comes around, ye can send it back tae me." "And fhat's what

we've been doing for the past 50-years," said Halverson, who mailed the card for the 100th

time. Carlson, who will soon turn

72, has been friends with Halver-

son since the two grew up together in Amery, Wisconsin,

where Carlson still lives. She re-

members buying the card in a

drugstore for 5 cents, and mailing

it for 2 cents. Halverson first received the card when he was 10.

NEW YORK (AP) - Tom Cruise, although familiar with the

Colour of Money, says he's never

done a film just for the cash. "I

Cruise doesn't

work for the cash

Gorbachev blasts Lithuanian party decision to break away

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev blasted the Lithuanian Communist Party's declaration of independence from Moscow as a bid to play up to Baltic nationalists, TASS said

Despite the Soviet leader's months to head off the split that tough criticism at a meeting of the national Communist Party Central Committee Monday, no decisions were made and the party's policy-making body began a second day of meeting Tuesday.

"No part of the Soviet Communist Party has the right to decide the question about its independence existence with its own programme and rules, not taking into account the position of the Soviet Communist Party as a whole," Gorbachev said. "And this means that the Communist Party of Lithuania was and remains a part of the united Soviet Communist Party.

TASS, in a report on the first day of the Central Committee meeting, said Gorbachev accused the leaders of the Lithuanian party as having "gone over to playing up to nationalist, separat-

Gorbachev tried for several

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies)

- Two men and a woman burned

to death in Christmas Day vio-

lence in South Africa's Natal pro-

vioce, a police report said

The incideot occurred in a

black township where a moh

threw petrol bombs at a group of

houses, the report said, without

About 2,000 people have died

in the past three years in Natal

province, where rival black groups are fighting for control of the townships, In a clash oear the town of

George, in Cape Province, police

fired stun grenades, tear gas and

birdshot to disperse a group of

stone-throwing blacks, the report

Two policemen were injured.

Meanwhile jailed black leader

Nelson Mandela spent his 28th

and probably last Christmas in

prison, opening presents and

sharing a quiet dinner with six-

Mandela's wife Winnie, their

dren, and another relative visited

Mandela for six hours at the

comfortable three-bedroom

house where he is held at Victor

Verster Prisoo ootside Cape

"He would bave loved to speod

WASHINGTON (AP) - Twen-

ty years after former President Richard Nixoo ordered the des-

truction of the U.S. stockpile of

biological weapons, the govern-

ment is on the verge of making

development and possession of

Nixon's directive met with little

resistance and the United States

ioined the Soviet Union and 109

other countries in signing a 1972

pact to prohibit production and

possession of the weapons. But

efforts to incorporate the treaty's

provisions into U.S. law have

lawmakers credit the changing atmosphere for arms control

agreements and the work of a

freshman Senator from Wiconsin.

Kohl, who with the help of a

longtime opponent of biological

and chemical weapons, Sen.

David Pryor, convinced the Jus-

tice Department and the full Sen-

ate to support the Biological

Weapons Anti-Terrorism Act of

In the waning hours of the congressional session on Nov. 21,

He is Democratic Sen. Herbert

Scientists, defence analysts and

the weapons illegal.

failed until this year.

Tuesday.

giving details.

the Lithuanian party declared in Vilnius on Dec. 20, and at the Congress of People's Deputies meeting in Moscow Saturday

lashed out at separatists.
"Today, to realise the right to self-determination through secession means to blow up the union, set the people against each other and sow conflict and blood and death," Gorbachev said. "That's what separatists are pushing us

He also told the Central Committee that the Soviet government should consider the legal status of public movements that are "carrying out separatist activities and whipping up nationalist

Gorbachev did not identify any such organisations, but in the cootext of the debate he likely was referring to Lithuania's Sajudis and other organisations pushing for sovereignty.

Mrs. Mandela, who had tears in

her eyes when she spoke to jour-

nalists afterward. "He would

have loved to go today, but his

has no new information what-

soever about his release," she added. "As far as he knows,

there have been no further de-

velopments that point to his im-

dren, ages nine, six and less than

one year, that their grandfather

The family brought a cake with

could not leave with them was

icing in the green, gold and black colours of the African National

Congress (ANC), the outlawed

guerrilla movement Mandela

They gave Mandela shirts from

a Johannesburg tailor who made

suits for seven of Mandela's col-

leagues released from prison in

The family planned another

visit before returning to their

home in Soweto, the huge black

Mandela, 71, is the country's

township outside Johannesburg.

best known black leader and the

world's most famous prisoner. He

serving a life sentence for plotting

Anti-biological arms legislation

tion by voice vote. The required

House passage and presidential

approval appear likely early next

the Senate has signalled the world that the United States is serious

about cootrolling these abomin-

able creations." Kohl said oo a

weapons are a form of bacteria.

virus, fungus or naturally occur-

ring toxin. A biolgical weapon

could be unleashed on an unsus-

pecting public by using it in a

liquid to contaminate water or in

an aerosol that is dropped by

banned the first use in war of

biological and chemical weapons,

but did oot address the develop-

ment, productioo, possession or

ordered the Defence Department

to destroy its arsenal of biological

weapons. The United States then

spearheaded the fight for an in-

ternational ban on production

and possession of the weapons.

Forty-four years later. Nixon

transfer of the weapons.

In 1925, the Geneva Protocol

By deficitioo, hiological

By approving the legislation,

makes progress in Congress

Senate floor.

particularly painful."

She said telling the grandchil-

"He regrets to advise that he

release is not in his hands.

3 killed in S. African violence

mediate release.'

It was an indication of the

within weeks, and there was spe-

culation he might be freed around

Christmas Day. However, the

government quashed rumours

Friday in a statement that said

Mandela would not be freed this

Mandela has had a steady

stream of visitors in recent

months, ranging from anti-apar-

theid activists to government leaders. He met on Dec. 13 with

President F.W. De Klerk at the

The freeing of the seven ANC

leaders was seen a trial run for

Mandela's release. The seven,

who have been active in promot-

ing their movement since their

release, were to have Christmas

dinner at the Johannesburg home

of Helen Joseph, an 84-year-old

Ms. Joseph, one of Mandela's co-defendants at a 1956-61

treason trial, visited Mandela

Thursday. It was their first meet-

daughter, Zeni, who is married

and studying in the United States.

daughter from his first marriage,

which ended in divorce. Another

On April 10, 1972, in Washing-

ton, Moscow and Londoo, 111

countries signed the biological

The Senate ratified the treaty

According to the pact, each

natioo must take "any necessary measures" to prohibit biological

weapons at home. Legislation

was introduced in Congress over

the years to include the prohibi-

tion in U.S. law, but the mea-

The measure's purpose is two-

fold. It implements the 1972

biological weapons convention

and seeks to protect the United States against the threat of biolo-

the possession or development of

germ warfare devices and autho-

rise the punishment of those who

attempt to help foreign nations acquire such weapons," the bill

Kohl believes final congres-

sional approval and Bush's sigan-

nture would strengthen the Uo-

ited States' hand in demanding

that all countries comply with the

"The legislation would prohibit

The Mandelas have another

Mandela also has a son and a

presideotial offices.

white activist.

ing in 28 years.

in a traffic accident.

weapons convention.

sures never got far.

gical terrorism.

1972 treaty.

two years later.

has been jailed since 1962 and is son from that marriage was killed

of Lithuanian television, said a commission that had been formed by the Central Committee to work out the problem included Brazauskas and several other Lithuanian Communists.

He added that a rally in support of the Lithuanian party's position, was scheduled for Tuesday afternoon in the Cathedral

Square of Vilnius.
Lithuanian party leader Algirdas Brazauskas, in an interview with the Interfax news service published Tuesday, defended the Lithuanian party's decision as a "step toward renewal of the

Brazauskas and other Lithuanian party leaders maintain that the Soviet leader has shown understanding of their move.

A heated debate has broken out in the party's Central Committee over the decision by Communists in Lithuania.

Tough talking between liberalks and conservatives went on throughout the day on Monday and the committee decided to extend its session for another

Christmas at home with us, "said -to sabotage the government.

Mrs. Mandela, who had tears in His release is widely expected

seriousness with which the Lithuanian move last week is being taken in Moscow. It represents the first break in Soviet party ranks since the 1917 revolu-

The debate appears to have pitted advocates of greater autonomy from Moscow against con-servatives who view the Lithuanian decision as a threat to sta-

Apart from Gorbachev, the meeting was addressed by party leaders from the country's 15

Among those taking part in the dehate were Brazauskas named to head the independent Lithuanian party — as well as the party leaders in the other two Baltic republics, Estonia and Lativa, both proponents of

But other speakers — including the party chiefs of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and the Ukraine were likely to have denounced

Yegor Ligachev, the ruling politburo's most prominent conservative, and chief party ideologist Vadim Medvedev were also certain to have been critical.

China

claims

revival

PEKING (AP) — China marked the 96th birthday of Mao Tse-

Tung Tuesday amid official

claims that young people disillu-sioned with Western philosophies

are rediscovering truth in the works of the late "great

The official press says there is a

quiet resurgence of interest in

Mao, the father of Communist

China. Since his death in 1976,

Mao also has been blamed for

bringing great suffering to China

Shanghai's Wen Hui daily said

that college students, after travel-

ing the "winding road" of fascina-

tion with Western thought, "have

returned to our forefathers to ask

for advice. ... Is this not a good

students, after the government's

hloody suppression of their pro-

democracy movement this spring

and months of heavy political

indoctrination, now realise that

Mao and Marx had the right ideas

China said Monday it has

arrested five Hong Kong and Macao residents on charges of

trying to smuggle dissidents out

It also accused a Hong Kong

group that demands democratic

reform in China of running an

"underground railroad" by which

dozens of dissidents have fled

abroad since the army crackdown

oo pro-democracy protests in

The official Xinhua News

Agency quoted police as saying

the arrests "dealt a major blow to

the overseas reactionary forces

who attempted to use Hong Kong

and Macao as sanctuaries for

China has said repeatedly it

will not allow residents of Hong

Kong and Macao to interfere in

mainland affairs, but this was the

first time it explicitly accused the

Hong Kong alliance for support-

ing the democratic movement in

China of running the under-

The alliance was founded after

the June crackdown, which in-

creased anxiety in British-ruled

Hong Kong and Portuguese-ruled

Macao about their return to

Chinese dominion in the coming

The five arrests were made

over the past three months, and

Xinhua did not say why they were

not announced earlier.

all along.

criminals."

ground railroad.

of the country.

The implication is that college

with his radical policies.

Mao

150 outlawed Tamil militiamen surrender to Sri Lankan army

More than 150 members of an outlawed Tamil militia surrendered to the Sri Lankan army after 44 of their comrades were killed by rival Tamil guerrillas, military officials said Tuesday.

A bedraggled Tamil National Army band walked into an army camp in the Polonnaruwa district 165 kilometres north east of Colombo Monday, a few hours after they were attacked by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eclam (LTTE), the officials said.

The group of 155 militiamen was taken into protective custody by Sri Lankan government troops camped at Nidamwela, the officials added, speaking on condi-

tion of anonymity.

The military officials in Colombo said the militamen who surreodered Monday brought with them an array of weapons, including 83 Soviet-designed AK47 assault rifles, a light machine gun, four submachine guns, five mortars and two launchers, five hand grenades and a large amount of ammunitioo.
The Sri Lankan government,

with Foreign Minister Ranjan Wijeratne serving as chief accuser, has alleged that India helped create the Tamil National Army to protect pro-Indian Tamils.

The Indian force started arriving in Sri Lanka on July 30, 1987, under an accord President Ranasinghe Premadasa's predecessor, President Junius R. Jayewardene, signed with India in an effort to settle the Tamil insurrec-

But the Tigers promptly re-neged on the accord and started attacking the Indians who were supposed to oversee a surrender

The Tigers this year opened negotiations with Premadasa's government to enter the political mainstream, but also stepped up their attacks in a power struggle with Indian-sopported rival Tamils. Four weeks ago they custed the Tamil National Army from the major east coast town of Batticaloa, killing at least 100 militiamen in the process.

The Sri Lankan army, which according to Wijeratne is 99 per cent Sinhalese, has generally

stayed out of the fray. Wijeratne and other officials said they did not want the majority ethnic group to be accused of killing minority Tamils. But the army offered protection to any Tamil militiamen who surrendered with

or without their weapons. India, under former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, agreed in Setpember to withdraw the last of its troops by Dec. 31. But the government of Gandhi's successor, V.P. Singh, has said it wass unlikely to meet that deadline. An estimated 25,000 Indian soldiers remain in Sri Lanka, down from a peak of about 100,000.

India got involved in the internal problems of its small island neighbour at the prodding of its own Tamil minority of 60 million. In Sri Lanka, Tamils make up 18 per cent of the island's 16 million people. Sinhalese comprise 75 per cent.
The Tamil revolt has claimed at

least 11,000 lives since it started in 1983. Tamil militants sought to establish a separate nation or homeland for their minority in

Asia does not want independent armed Japan, policy paper says

TOKYO (AP) - Improvements visit Thailand and Malaysia for threatened by Japanese military in East-West relations should not end Japan's military alliance with the United States, because other nations don't want an independent armed Japan, a Foreign Ministry policy paper says.

The new policy paper, made available Tuesday, also says Japan should try to build a climate that will help reduce tension on the Korean peninsula and shojuld work to reduce instability in the Asia-Pacific region by promoting economic development.

It says Japan should take an active role in the search for peace in Cambodia and try to draw China and the Communist nations in Indochina into Asia's

"sphere of prosperity."
Foreign Mioister Taro
Nakayama indicated Tuesday that Japan is likely to resume its economic assistance to China eary next year, the Japan Broadcasting Corp. (NHK) reported. Japan halted its assistance following China's violent suppression of pro-democracy demonstrations this spring.

Nakayama said Japan should do as much as possible to support reform in China and encourage its open-door economic policy, NHK reported.

On Tuesday, the government announced that Nakayama will

five days beginning on Jan. 2 for talks on Cambodia and other

Nakayama is also to meet with Japanese ambassadors in the region to discuss Japan's policy toward Asia and the Pacific nations following recent change in East-West ties, officials said.

The policy paper says Japan's military alliance with the United States has helped prevent other Asiao natioos from feeling

strength. "In addition to the need for a

reliable deterrent force while Soviet military strength in the area has grown, or at least not declined, neighboiling nations would not welcome a separation of Japanese military power from the United States," the paper

Therefore, despite changes in East-West relations, we must maintain the Japan-U.S. security

Guam, Saipan brace for typhoon

AGANA, Guam (AP) - Residents on Guam and Saipan were advised Tuesday to make precautionary preparations for an intense storm that closed to with-m 320 kilometres of the islands in Guam's Civil Defence Agency the westero Pacifie before said Toesday afternoon.

Typhoon Jack, with sustained winds of 215 kilometres per hour and gusts to 265 kilometres per hour, had been moving on a track that would take it between the islands when it stalled early

hours now, but it is expected to move nearer Saipan late Wednesday or early Thursday morning,"

The storm was forecast to resume its movement to the north northwest and go between Guam and Saipan, the capital of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, located 200 kilometres oorth of Guam.

But it remains unclear how

They are desperate and

well-equipped the forces are against the highly-trained

fanatical." said Bucharest resi-

dent Mircea Hranovschi. "The

main questioo is when are we

going to get rid of these crazy

Hranovschi, an economist

by training, said the remnants of the palace guard appeared to be in loose contact, passing intelligence and ammunition on the sly. "That's why we

must search every car, every

As he spoke, police tried unsuccessfully to flush hidden

snipers from a fashion institute

It is the very mobility of

these commandos that has pro-

longed the fighting. Tales of a

complex of secret tunnels that

across the street.

Securitate.

people?"

person."

LONDON (AP) - Prince Charles used Shakespeare's

to suffer The slings and arrows of outrageous fortune,

troubles

Well, frankly, the problem as I

At this moment in time is whether I Should just he down under all

the snipers use add to the terror in the streets. Late Monday morning the army moved in and captured the mayor of Bucharest, Barbu

Petreson, brother of Ceansesco's despised wife Elena. Crowds banged on the sides of the armoured personnel carrier which held Petrescu while

others danced in the sreets with joy. "Assassins, assassins," they called out, loudly booing the

former mayor as the army carried him off.

Not all operations have gone so smoothly. Fighting con-tinued around the international airport and shots were reported at the northern railway station.

Commandos also tried to sabotage the power plant serving much of the city's press, including the Romanian News Service Agerpres.

The press agency reported a night-time attack by "comman-do troops" on the city's Steuaia Maternity Hospital, forcing patients and doctors to seek refuge in the building's base-

don't know who many times I have to say this, but having clout, in the business has never been a huge concern on mine." Cruise said in an interview. "And I have never done a film for money. ... That's not what acting is for me. I

love doing it, and I want to try different things," said Cruise, who co-starred with Dustin Hoffman-in Rain Man and Paul Newman in the Colour of Money. His most recent different thing. The role of disabled Vietnam veteran Ron Kovic in the just released Born on the Fourth of July. Cruise said he ignored the advice of studio executives and others who felt he should sfeer clear of the role. People want to limit things," Cruise said: "They say, 'God, you're going to lose everything? Aren't you airaid?"

Somewhere I guess you want to find out, how far can I fail? How deep is the well? When am I to hat? I want to

Decline of English language

Hamlet to illustrate the decline of the English language, bemoaning what he called impoverished, sloppy banalities and clickes. The prince said English had been the medium for some of the greatest literature in the works, including that of William Shakespeare. But he said the state of modern English led him to wonder how Shakespeare's Hamlet would have delivered his famous "to be or not to be" soliloguy io today's language. In act III, scene I of Hamlet, the protagonist says:

To be, or not to be: that is the Whether 'tis nobler in the mind

Or to take arms against a sea of

And by opposing end them? Here is Prince Charles' version of how the soliloguy would be written in today's English:

And let them walk all over me, Or, whether I should just say.

I get the message," and do myself in.

Global weather

(major world cities)

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WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Ceausescu's 'poet' nearly lynching BUCHAREST, Romania (AP) - Adrian Paunescu, a poet who

repeatedly described Nicolae Ceausescu as "the most beloved son of the Romanian people," was saved by the army Monday when a crowd wanted to lynch him. Paunescu for years was responsible for running "song to Romania," a festival of music and poetry that glorified Ceausescu and his wife Elena, Romania's deposed rulers. Before state radio and television announced the secret trial and execution of the Ceausescus Monday, Paunescu tried to take refuge at the U.S. embassy in Bucharest, but was turned away at the door, witnesses said. An angry crowd gathered around the poet and tried to lynch him, but army officers intervened and took him away. Paunescu, who owns a 10-room Bucharest villa complete with a swimming pool and sauna, was long or a libered Ceausescu's court poet.

Irish playwright dies

PARIS (AP) — Samuel Beckett, the Nobel-Prize winning playwright, poet and novelist of everlasting despair, has died at the age of 83, his publisher said Tuesday. Beckett, whose work depicted death and decay as mankind's sole and inescapable destiny, was buried Tuesday morning at the Montparnasse

Cemetery in a private ceremony, said publisher Jerome Linden. The playwright died Friday in Paris of respiratory failure, Linden said. The Irish-born author of Waiting for Godot and Endgame described a stark world of vagabond couples trapped by an apocalyptic sense of doom and caught in a never-ending, master-slave dialectic often laced with wry humour. There are no landmarks in my work," he once said. "We are all adrift. We must invent a world in which to survive, but even this invented world is pervaded by fear and guilt. Our existence is hopeless."

Greek deputy escapes injury in blast

ATHENS (AP) - A controversial Socialist deputy and publisher escaped mjury Tuesday when his motor car was blown up outside his home, police said. They said that an explosion caused by dynamice destroyed Makis Kouris' car only minutes after he parked it outside his suburban home at 5 c.m. (0300 GMT) but that no one was injured. No one has claimed responsibility for the blast. A police official, who asked to remain anonymous, said that police did not suspect any of Greece's three well-known urban guerrilla organisations of involvement in the attack. Kouris and his brother, George, own three political dailies and a radio station. He was elected to parliament in June and November this

Bucharest marks Christmas Day with celebration, warfare

Romanian capital marked Christmas Day with a mixture of traditional celebration, augry protests and guerrilla

Passers-by on the city's wide streets dodged sniper fire and speeding army trucks as they hurried to huy mistletoe at the central market or rushed off to

Others placed Christmas trees, complete with ornaments, at the makeshift shrines they have put up to mark those who fell in bloody street

The National Salvation Front (NSF) oow ruouiog Romania had announced a 5 p.m. (1500 GMT) deadline for all but army troops to hand in

But as it passed, resistance by the Securitate secret police of falleo dictator Nicolae Ceausescu was oot wholly quelled in the capital, and even less so in Timisoara, the western town where the Romanian

revolution began. They (the Securitate) are criminals, fanatics. They have nowhere to go and nothing to lose," said Timisoara resident Adrian Chinkovici. "But we want to capture them alive because only they know where

- like the Ceausescus," said Chinkovici's father Cyprian, drawing his hand across his

m Bucharest, Romaoian movement.

"Let us pray for these brave young people, these young boys and girls who have died for freedom. They will live forever in our hearts and

church was often a willing organ of state power under Ceausescu, also struck an anologetic note.

"In the past 25 years we have been through shocking moments and I did not have the courage the youth has shown," said the leader of Romania's 16 millioo he-

Brandy and hread, traditional commemoration of the dead, stood on a table to one side during the mass. Victor Ciohanu, health

minister in the fallen Ceauses-

cu'regime hut a supporter of the front, said 500 people had been killed in Bucharest and 2,000 hurt in the last four days. He said "thousands" had died across Romania but offered no He rejected a report broad-

cast by Hungarian radio that 70,000 to 80,000 people had been killed in Romania since the first outbreak of shooting in Timisoara little more than a week ago. In the city centre, the people

city buses are running.

have reclaimed the streets. Open lorries crammed with young people waving national flags - the hated Communist emblem ripped from their centres - cruise the boulevards. Old women sweep up shards of broken window panes. Technicians have begun repairing street lamps and some

Crowds rush by, singing out: "Ceausescu is no more." The all these arms are kept." "They'll be killed, executed frequent road blocks have been dismantled and scattered car traffic has returned. Many pedestrians stroll arm in arm.

At a packed Christmas mass the secret police headquarters Orthodox Patriarch Teoctist has been reduced to a burned-Arapafu hailed the liberation out hulk, army tank crews relax with newspapers and cigarettes.

But the patriarch, whose

unleashed its tanks and guns on a rising populace, has firmly switched sides and is now the main bulwark against violent terror. The army's command has put itself under the National

In the central square, where

The army, which last week

Salvation Front at least for